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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union

Letter dated 26 September 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

In my capacity as a representative of the current Chairman of the African Union, I have the honour to transmit herewith the following documents to be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 22 (m):

- Decisions and declarations adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-eighth ordinary session (annex I).
- Decisions adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-sixth ordinary session (annex II).
- Decisions and declarations adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its first ordinary session (annex III).
- Decision adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union at its first ordinary session (annex IV).

(*Signed*) Jeanette **Ndhlovu**
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Annexes to the letter dated 26 September 2002 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

Annex I

Decisions and declarations adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-eighth ordinary session

(Durban, South Africa, 8 July 2002)

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AHG/Dec.171 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE 15TH ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS
- Doc. AHG/236 (XXXVIII) - a

The Assembly,

1. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** of the 15th Annual Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights and **COMMENDS** the African Commission for the excellent work accomplished in the past year in the area of promotion and protection of human rights;

2. **CALLS UPON** the African Commission to propose ways and means of strengthening the African system for the promotion and protection of Human and Peoples' Rights within the African Union, and submit a report thereon to the next session of the Assembly;

3. **CALLS UPON** Member States, which have not yet done so, to expedite the process of ratification of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights in order to have this important instrument in force before the next session (July 2003);

4. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to take the necessary action in order to complete as soon as possible, the elaboration of the Draft Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights relating to the Rights of Women in Africa and to make sure that all Member States are fully involved in the process;

5. **AUTHORIZES** the publication of the 15th Annual Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, pursuant to Article 59 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.

AHG/Dec.172 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE AFRICAN COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD
-Doc. AHG/236 (XXXVIII) - b

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report and recommendations of the inaugural meeting of the African Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;

2. **RECOGNIZES** the important role of the African Committee in the improvement of the conditions of African children everywhere on the Continent;

3. **CALLS UPON** the Committee to ensure that the provisions on the rights and welfare of the African child, as enshrined in the African Charter, are respected in all Member States;

4. **URGES** Member States, which have not yet done so, to urgently sign and/or ratify the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child;

5. **REQUESTS** Member States to extend their full support and cooperation to the African Committee and submit their reports regularly to the Committee;

6. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Secretary General to urgently appoint a Secretary to the Committee, as stipulated in Article 40 of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child, to enable the Committee function effectively.

AHG/Dec. 173 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE LOCKERBIE ISSUE
- Doc. AHG/237 (XXXVIII)

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the OAU Commission of Jurists on the Lockerbie Issue, which noted that the judgment of 31 January 2001 was based on evidence that was not in line with the vital elements of the accusation;

2. **RECALLS** Decision AHG/Dec.3 (V) adopted by the 5th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government held in Sirte, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on 2 March 2001 and Decision AHG/Dec. 168 (XXXVII), adopted on the issue by the 37th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held from 9 to 11 July 2001 in Lusaka, Zambia, as well as all the other resolutions and decisions taken by the OAU on this matter;

3. **REGRETS** the fact that the United Nations Security Council has, up to now, not definitively lifted the unjust sanctions and embargo imposed on Libya and which no longer have legal or moral justification, given the positive attitude and full cooperation shown by Jamahiriya in handling this issue and **URGENTLY REQUESTS** the Security Council to take the necessary measures to immediately and definitively lift these sanctions and embargo which have already caused untold suffering to the Libyan people;

4. **ALSO REGRETS** that the Court of Appeal pronounced judgment on 14 March 2002 rejecting the appeal lodged by Mr. Al Megrahi;

5. **FURTHER REGRETS** the decision taken on 7 January 2002 by the United States of America to extend for a period of one year the measures to boycott the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by virtue of the special law they promulgated since 1986 in the aftermath of the crisis;

6. **COMMENDS** the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the spirit of cooperation it demonstrated throughout the judicial process and for the efforts it has invested to find a just and equitable solution to the Lockerbie Affair;

7. **RECOMMENDS** that the Current Chairman and the members of his Bureau use their good offices to make the necessary contacts with a view to ensuring a rapid and permanent settlement of the issue.

AHG/Dec. 174 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE STATUS REPORT ON GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR VACCINES AND IMMUNIZATION (GAVI) - Doc. Ass/AU/3 (I) Add.2

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **ACKNOWLEDGES** that vaccines constitute one of the most effective means of improving health and reducing the suffering and mortality occasioned by infectious diseases;

3. **ALSO ACKNOWLEDGES** that the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) is a public-private partnership established in 1999 to reinforce the commitment to immunization;

4. **URGES** Member States to take all necessary measures to ensure that every child in Africa is fully immunized by widening, for all children, the range of basic vaccines (measles, poliomyelitis, BCG and DTC) to include Hepatitis- B Vaccines;

5. **FURTHER URGES** Member States to establish more effective linkages between immunization and health sector development in general, and create technical partnerships between low and medium income countries to promote experience and resource sharing so as to reduce the gap between children born in different environments;

6. **APPEALS** to GAVI partners to support efforts aimed at combating measles which accounts for 50% of infant mortality each year in Africa; formulate strategies to ensure the sustainability of immunization services in the poorest countries, with over 80% coverage; and help low-income African countries to identify mechanisms which will enable them to increase their national immunization budgets;

7. **URGES** GAVI partners to undertake to increase the number of African governments on the Governing Body of GAVI in order to reflect the priority needs of the Continent, and to collaborate with the vaccine industry partners to guarantee adequate supply of essential vaccines

8. **FURTHER URGES** donors, international organizations and all institutions working in the health and development sector to provide adequate and sustained official development assistance for long-term funding, as well as other financial incentives related to poverty reduction strategies, such as debt cancellation and additional technical assistance;

9. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to take all the necessary measures to follow-up on the implementation of the present decision and report to subsequent sessions of Council.

AHG/Dec. 175 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY, STABILITY, DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION IN AFRICA (CSSDCA)

The Assembly:

1. **WELCOMES** the efforts deployed by the Secretary General in the implementation of the Solemn Declaration on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Co-operation in Africa (CSSDCA) adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Lomé, Togo, in July 2000;

2. **APPROVES** the Memorandum of Understanding on Security, Stability, Development, Cooperation as elaborated by the Experts' meetings, enriched by the OAU-Civil Society Conference and recommended by the Council of Ministers;

3. **REQUESTS** the Member States to take steps required for the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and to keep the Secretariat informed of the progress made in this direction in order to facilitate the monitoring and evaluation process of the CSSDCA, including through review conferences and meetings, as provided for in the CSSDCA Solemn Declaration adopted in Lomé, Togo, in July 2000;

4. **WELCOMES** the convening of the second OAU-Civil Society Conference on Developing Partnership between the OAU and African Civil Society Organizations, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 11 – 15 June 2002 and **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the Conference, in particular, those relating to the African Union and the CSSDCA Process;

5. **COMMENDS** Nigeria and South Africa for their generous contribution of Five hundred thousand Dollars (US$500,000) each for the operationalization of the CSSDCA and **CALLS UPON** OAU Member States, the United Nations and all OAU Partners to provide financial support for the CSSDCA Process;

6. **REAFFIRMS** the centrality of the CSSDCA Process as a policy development forum, a framework for the advancement of common values, and as a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the African Union;

7. **REQUESTS** the Secretary-General to pursue efforts aimed at strengthening the CSSDCA Unit to enable it carry out its functions effectively and to take the necessary steps to ensure the follow-up of these recommendations.

AHG/Dec. 176 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE PLACE OF THE AFRICAN POPULATION COMMISSION (APC) IN THE AFRICAN UNION

The Assembly:

1. **RECOGNIZES** the objectives, functions and achievements of the Commission, since its inception in 1994, under the Joint Secretariat of ADB, ECA and OAU;

2. **COMMENDS** the efforts of the African Population Commission (APC) in the implementation of the Dakar/Ngor Declaration and the International Conference on Population and Development and **URGES** for intensification of these efforts;

3. **REQUESTS** the OAU to continue spearheading the realization of the APC Programmes;

4. **CALLS UPON** Member States to provide sustained and adequate support to National Population Councils, local focal points of the APC;

5. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) and other relevant partners to continue supporting and working with the APC;

6. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to take the necessary measures to determine the position of this body within the African Union, and make recommendations in this regard to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly.

AHG/Dec. 177 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE PLACE OF THE OAU LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION IN THE AFRICAN UNION

The Assembly

1. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the multifarious human, social and economic problems hindering sustainable development in the African continent;

2. **RECOGNIZES** that the Labour and Social Affairs Commission is one of the most dynamic and fruitful organs of the OAU;

3. **RECOGNIZES ALSO** the numerous achievements of the Commission in improving the social and economic conditions of the African peoples during its twenty-five years of existence;

4. **COMMENDS** the spirit of tripartism that exists in the Commission and the collaboration among Governments, Employers and Workers which is unique in the world, thus making the Labour and Social Affairs Commission a unique Regional Commission of this nature in the world;

5. **AFFIRMS** that with the promotion of tripartism as the bedrock of social dialogue and democracy, faster and sustainable development, social justice, peace, stability and good governance can be achieved;

6. **FURTHER RECOGNIZES** that in the context of globalisation and the attendant challenges which Africa should take up in the economic and social fields, in particular employment, it is imperative to maintain the Commission in its present tripartite form and to strengthen it with a view to enhancing its effectiveness;

7. **REQUESTS** that the social dimension be adequately addressed in the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) programme;

8. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Secretary General to take the necessary measures to determine the position of this body within the African Union and make recommendations in this regard to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly.

AHG/Dec. 178 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE WORLD SOLIDARITY AND POVERTY REDUCTION FUND

The Assembly:

1. **RECALLS** Decision AHG/Dec. 4 (XXXV) by which the Heads of State and Government reiterated their support for the initiative launched by H.E. Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, the President of the Republic of Tunisia aimed at the establishment of the World Solidarity Fund;

2. **RECALLS** Decision CM/Dec. 645 by which Council requested the Secretary General to seize the United Nations Secretary General of this Decision as the African Common Position, and seek his support to speed up the implementation of Resolution 56/207 on the mechanisms, operational modalities, powers and management modalities for the Fund, thereby making it operational;

3. **REAFFIRMS** its conviction that the Fund will contribute to the strengthening of international solidarity and cooperation with a view to eradicating poverty in the world, especially on the African continent, pursuant to the objectives the poverty reduction programme adopted at the Millennium Summit held in September 2000;

4. **FURTHER REAFFIRMS** that this fund will constitute one of the instruments for the realization of the objectives of the African Union and NEPAD;

5. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the Secretary General on consultations with the United Nations Secretary General to accelerate the process of establishing this Fund;

6. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to continue his efforts as well as his consultations with the United Nations Secretary General and closely monitor negotiations on the implementation mechanisms to be conducted during the next session of the United Nations General Assembly.

7. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Secretary General to report on progress made in the implementation of this decision to the next Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union.

AHG/Dec. 179 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON SUPPORT FOR MR JUAN SOMAVIA

The Assembly :

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Motion of Support for the candidature of Mr. JUAN SOMAVIA for a second term as ILO Director General, adopted by the 25th Ordinary Session of the OAU Labour and Social Affairs Commission held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 16 to 21 April 2002;

2. **ENDORSES** this Motion and **SUPPORTS** the candidature of Mr Juan Somavia for re-election for a second term as Director General of the ILO;

3. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General and the African Tripartite Representatives on the ILO Governing Body to ensure the implementation of this Decision.

DECISION ON THE AFRICAN PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION OF THE MARINE AND COASTAL ENVIRONMENT IN AFRICA
- Doc. CM/2264 (LXXVI) Add.2

The Assembly:

1. **RECALLS** Decision AHG/Dec. 163 (XXXVII) of its 37th Ordinary Session, held in Lusaka, Zambia in July 2001, which further endorsed the African Process for the Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment in *Sub-Saharan Africa and decided to hold its Partnership Conference at the level of Heads of State in conjunction with the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

2. **AFFIRMS** that the African Process is an important contribution of African countries to the World Summit in Sustainable Development and **ACKNOWLEDGES** the outstanding quality of the work carried out by African experts in the development of the Global Environment Facility (GEF/MSP) for the Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment in Sub-Saharan Africa through which the African Process has been implemented to date;

3. **ENDORSES** the proposal made at the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee of the GEF/MSP on the Environmental Component of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) to include the African Process as the component of its oceans segment, and to recommend the application of its methodology to other thematic areas;

4. **INVITES** all participating countries in the process to provide adequate financial resources, as well as institutional, administrative, policy and regulatory support, for the implementation of the African Process, and in particular for selected project proposals and **URGES** all Member States to support and actively participate in the implementation of the African Process;

5. **APPEALS TO** the G8 countries and other external partners, bilateral and multilateral, as well as International Financial Institutions, to assist with financing projects which are to be presented at the Partnership Conference of the African Process;

6. **REQUESTS** the Global Environmental Facility and the World Bank to fund the second generation of the African Process project development cycle, with a view to enabling other Member States to participate and to assist in the development of viable "win-win" projects which address root causes of environmental degradation and promote sustainable development;

7. **COMMENDS** the innovative approach developed by the African Process, executed by a representative of civil society, the Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea (ACOPS) in partnership with UNEP, the GPA Co-ordination Office and IOC, of UNESCO, and recommends that such multi-stakeholder partnerships be further promoted for addressing pressing environmental issues, and that such mechanism should also include the OAU;

8. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to the Government of Nigeria, and in particular to His Excellency President Olusegun Obasanjo, for his vision and leadership in fulfilling the mandate given to his country as Presidency of AMCEN, and his decision to host the Super Prep-Com as well as in ensuring

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* **Reservation by Libya**

that the Partnership Conference be held at the level of Heads of State during WSSD Conference;

9. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to report on the conclusions of the Partnership Conference to the next Summit of the African Union.

AHG/Dec. 181 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND UNIVERSALITY OF THE CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING AND USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (hereinafter "the Convention") that aims to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

2. **RECALLS** United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/55/33 of 20 November 2000 which notes with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties,

3. **ALSO RECALLS** the steadfast position of Africa regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction and in particular to the Pelindaba Treaty,

4. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the conclusions and recommendations of the workshop devoted to Africa on the Chemical Weapons Convention held in Khartoum, the Sudan, from 9 to 11 March 2002,

5. **WELCOMES** the recommendation for an effective implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Africa through sustained technical assistance from the Technical Secretariat of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

6. **ENCOURAGES** the call to achieve universality of the Chemical Weapons Convention in Africa,

7. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to inform Council, at its regular sessions, of developments regarding the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention and the progress made on the issue of universality.

AHG/Dec. 182 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND PALESTINE
Doc. CM/2258 (LXXVI)

The Assembly

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **RECALLS** UN General Assembly resolutions on the Middle East and Palestine, in particular resolutions 181 and 194 and Security Council Resolutions 242, 252, 338, 465, 478, 1397, 1402 and 1403 and **CALLS** for the implementation of these resolutions;

3. **FURTHER RECALLS** all relevant resolutions of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Council of Ministers on the Middle East, which affirm that the Question of Palestine is at the core of the Middle East conflict and that no comprehensive, just and lasting peace can be established unless Israel fully withdraws from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including East Jerusalem, the Syrian Golan Heights, the Lebanese territory to the borders of 4th June 1967;

4. **REAFFIRMS** its solidarity and support for the just and legitimate struggle of the Palestinian people, under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, their sole and legitimate representative, to exercise their inalienable national rights, including their right to return to their homes, recover their property, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil, with East Jerusalem as its capital, in accordance with the principles of international law and other pertinent resolutions of the UN;

5. **EXPRESSES** full solidarity with and support for the elected President of the Palestinian National Authority, the Leader of the Palestinian People, H.E. Yasser Arafat, and **DEMANDS** the immediate end of the Israeli brutal military siege imposed on President Arafat in Ramallah and **CALLS** for international efforts and assistance to rebuild the Palestinian institutions destroyed by the Israeli occupation army;

6. **CONDEMNS** the repeated military incursions and reoccupation of areas under Palestinian control, the marginalization of the Palestinian National Authority, the wave of killings and assassinations, the policy of collective punishment and premeditated destruction of the Palestinian economy, infrastructures, official and public institutions, including the Presidential buildings in Gaza and Ramallah, and the suffocating blockage against the Palestinian people, all of which, will only jeopardize the prospects of peace in the region; **ALSO CONDEMNS** the policy of Israel to desecrate Christian and Muslim places of worship in the occupied Palestinian territory and **DEMANDS** that Israel respect the sanctity of these religious institutions and Israel's commitment to the principles of international humanitarian law in the occupied Palestinian territory.

7. **CONDEMNS FURTHER** the policy of destruction and demolition of homes carried out by the Israeli forces in the Palestinian refugee camps, villages and towns as well as the refusal of the Israeli Government to allow the UN Fact-Finding Mission charged with establishing the facts about alleged crimes and atrocities committed in the Jenin refugee camp, Nablus and other places. **ALSO CONDEMNS** the policy of Israel to forbid the entry and provision of medical and food supplies to the refugee camps, villages and towns in the occupied Palestinian territory;

8. **TAKES NOTE WITH APPRECIATION** of the initiative of the Saudi Crown Prince, adopted by the Arab League Summit in Beirut, Lebanon, which affords a historic opportunity and basis for a global, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the conflict in the Middle East, and **CALLS UPON** the parties and the International Community to support the initiative;

9. **CALLS** for the implementation of the Declaration adopted by the reconvened Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention on 5 December 2001 and **CALLS** for concrete action at the national, regional and international levels to ensure respect by the occupying power of the provisions of the Convention;

10. **HAILS** the efforts deployed by the UN Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and **URGES** it to continue to pursue its initiatives with all the parties concerned;

11. **WELCOMES** the recent resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council on Development in the Middle East and Palestine, especially Resolution 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002 which inter alia reaffirms a vision of a region where two states, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders;

12. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** over the stalled peace process attributed to the lack of commitment of the Israeli Government in pursuing the negotiations that will ensure a just and comprehensive peace and guarantee security and stability for all the peoples of the region and **REITERATES ITS CALL** for the resumption of negotiations between Israel and Palestine on the one hand, and between Israel and Syria and Lebanon on the other, on the basis of Resolutions 242, 338, 425 and tenets of the peace process established at the Madrid Conference as well as the full implementation of all other agreements and commitments undertaken on all tracks of the peace process in the region;

13. **ALSO EXPRESSES ITS SUPPORT** for all peace initiatives aimed at achieving just, lasting and comprehensive peace, including the recommendations of the Mitchell Report and the Tenet Work Plan on security intended to ensure the stoppage of the cycle of violence and facilitate the resumption of the peace negotiations as well as the initiatives of the US Secretary of State, Mr. Colin Powell, and the "Quartet" amongst other things, the immediate cessation of hostilities and the establishment of a ceasefire regime and **URGES** the sponsors and the international community at large, to revive the peace process and guarantee its success and for the parties concerned, to honour their commitments in order to create the necessary conditions for the establishment of a ceasefire regime that will usher in lasting peace and security in the region;

14. **WELCOMES** the proposals of the Secretary General of the United Nations on the establishment of a robust and credible multinational force under Chapter VII of the Charter of the UN. **CALLS UPON** the members of the Security Council to quickly consider the proposal of the Secretary General and to take the necessary measures in this regard since the presence of such a Force in Palestine could make an important, positive contribution towards the rapid achievement of a final settlement between Palestine and Israel

15. **AGREES** to set up a Committee of 10 Members in order to activate the peace process in the Middle East.

AHG/Dec. 183 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE RETURN OF THE PILLAGED AFRICAN MONUMENT: THE OBELISK OF AXUM

The Assembly of Heads of State and Government:

Recalling the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property adopted on 14 November 1970 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO),

Recalling also the Convention regarding the protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage adopted on 16 November 1972, by UNESCO,

Recalling further United Nations General Assembly resolutions on the return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin, adopted since 1972, and in particular resolutions 33/50 of 14 December 1978, 34/64 of 29 November 1979 35/128 of 11 December 1980, 36/64 of 27 November 1981, 38/34 of 25 November 1983, 40/19 of 21 November 1985, 42/7 of 22 October 1987, 44/18 of 6 November 1989, 50/56 of 11 December 1995, 52/24 of 25 November 1997, 45/190 of 17 December 1999 and 56/97 of 14 December 2001,

Convinced that cultural property constitutes a basic element of civilization and national culture,

Cognizant of the singular importance attached by the countries of origin to the return of cultural property which is a fundamental spiritual and cultural value to them,

Reiterating the solemn appeal made on 7 June 1987, by the Director-General of UNESCO for the return of irreplaceable cultural heritage to the countries of origin,

Bearing in mind the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 56/8 on the proclamation of 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage,

1. **DECLARES** that the return or restitution to a country of its cultural property contributes to the strengthening of international cooperation between developed and developing countries.

2. **AFFIRMS** the importance of the provisions of the convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects.

3. **DEPLORES** the systematic delaying tactic deployed by the government of Italy regarding the pillaged African historical monument, namely the Obelisk of Axum.

4. **CALLS UPON** the government of Italy to abide by its commitment entered into in 1947, 1956 and 1997 to return the Obelisk of Axum to its country of origin;

5. **URGES** UNESCO to put the necessary pressure on the government of Italy to return the Obelisk of Axum to Ethiopia without further delay.

6. **APPEALS** to the international community to pressure the Italian Government to return the Obelisk of Axum pursuant to the United Nations General Assembly Resolutions.

AHG/Dec. 184 (XXXVIII)

DECISION ON THE PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL WITHIN THE AFRICAN UNION
Doc. AHG/234 (XXXVIII)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Special Session of the Council of Ministers of 1 and 2 July 2002;

2. **COMMENDS** the Committee of Ambassadors and the General Secretariat for the work accomplished to implement the Lusaka Summit Decision of AHG/Dec.160 (XXXVII) of July 2001, on a review of the working methods, structures and procedures of the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, including the possibility of changing its name;

3. **TAKES NOTE** of the Draft Protocol on the establishment of a Peace and Security Council within the African Union and **RECOMMENDS** the Protocol to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, for consideration.

AHG/Decl. 1 (XXXVIII)

OAU DECLARATION ON THE PRINCIPLES GOVERNING DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS IN AFRICA

I. PREAMBLE

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, meeting in Durban, South Africa, at the 38th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the OAU, have considered the Report of the Secretary General on strengthening the role of the OAU in election observation and monitoring and the advancement of the democratization process.

Considering the principles and objectives of the African Union enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union, particularly in its Articles 3 and 4;

Reaffirming the Algiers Decision of July 1999 and the Lomé Declaration of July 2000 on the Framework for an OAU response to unconstitutional changes of government, which laid down a set of common values and principles for democratic governance;

Considering also the CSSDCA Solemn Declaration adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU in Lomé, Togo, in July 2000, which underpins the OAU's agenda of promoting democracy and democratic institutions in Africa;

Considering further the New African Initiative (NAI) now referred to as the New Partnership for the African's Development (NEPAD) adopted by the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government in Lusaka, Zambia, in July 2001, by which, through the Democracy and Political Governance Initiative, African Leaders undertook to promote and protect democracy and human rights in their respective countries and regions, by developing clear standards of accountability and participatory governance at the national and sub-regional levels;

Reaffirming the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted in December 1948, as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted in December 1966, which recognized the will of the people expressed through free and fair elections as the basis of the authority of government;

Reaffirming also the significance of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights adopted in Nairobi, Kenya, in June 1981, which recognized the right of every citizen to participate freely in the government of his or her country whether directly or through democratically elected representatives;

Recalling the Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the Political and Socio-economic Situation in Africa and the Fundamental Changes Taking Place in the World, adopted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in July 1990 wherein OAU Member States undertook to continue with the democratization of African societies and the consolidation of the democratic institutions;

Recalling further the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development adopted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in July 1990, which emphasized the need to involve the people of Africa in the spheres of economic and political governance;

Referring to the Cairo Agenda for Action adopted in Cairo, Egypt, in 1995, which stressed the imperative of ensuring good governance through popular participation based on the respect for human rights and dignity, free and fair elections, as well as on the respect of the principles of freedom of the press, speech, association and conscience;

Cognizant of the fact that each Member State has the sovereign right to choose its political system in accordance with the will of its people and in conformity with the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the universally accepted principles of democracy;

Finally considering the ever-growing role already played by the OAU in the observation/monitoring of elections and the need to strengthen the Organization's efforts in advancing democracy in Africa;

Agree and endorse the following Principles Governing Democratic Elections in Africa:

II. PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS

1. Democratic elections are the basis of the authority of any representative government;

2. Regular elections constitute a key element of the democratization process and therefore, are essential ingredients for good governance, the rule of law, the maintenance and promotion of peace, security, stability and development;

3. The holding of democratic elections is an important dimension in conflict prevention, management and resolution;

4. Democratic elections should be conducted:

   a) freely and fairly;

   b) under democratic constitutions and in compliance with supportive legal instruments;

   c) under a system of separation of powers that ensures in particular, the independence of the judiciary;

   d) at regular intervals, as provided for in National Constitutions;

   e) by impartial, all-inclusive competent accountable electoral institutions staffed by well-trained personnel and equipped with adequate logistics;

III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBER STATES

We commit our Governments to:

a) take necessary measures to ensure the scrupulous implementation of the above principles, in accordance with the constitutional processes of our respective countries;

b) establish where none exist, appropriate institutions where issues such as codes of conduct, citizenship, residency, age requirements for eligible voters, compilation of voters' registers, etc would be addressed;

c) establish impartial, all-inclusive, competent and accountable national electoral bodies staffed by qualified personnel, as well as competent legal entities including effective constitutional courts to arbitrate in the event of disputes arising from the conduct of elections;

d) safeguard the human and civil liberties of all citizens including the freedom of movement, assembly, association, expression, and campaigning as well as access to the media on the part of all stakeholders, during electoral processes;

e) promote civic and voters' education on the democratic principles and values in close cooperation with the civil society groups and other relevant stakeholders;

f) take all necessary measures and precautions to prevent the perpetration of fraud, rigging or any other illegal practices throughout the whole electoral process, in order to maintain peace and security,;

g) ensure the availability of adequate logistics and resources for carrying out democratic elections, as well as ensure that adequate provision of funding for all registered political parties to enable them organise their work, including participation in electoral process.;

h) ensure that adequate security is provided to all parties participating in elections;

i) ensure the transparency and integrity of the entire electoral process by facilitating the deployment of representatives of political parties and individual candidates at polling and counting stations and by accrediting national and/other observers/monitors;

j) encourage the participation of African women in all aspects of the electoral process in accordance with the national laws.

IV. ELECTIONS: RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS

We reaffirm the following rights and obligations under which democratic elections are conducted:

1. Every citizen shall have the right to participate freely in the government of his or her country, either directly or through freely elected representatives in accordance with the provisions of the law.

2. Every citizen has the right to fully participate in the electoral processes of the country, including the right to vote or be voted for, according to the laws of the country and as guaranteed by the Constitution, without any kind of discrimination.

3. Every citizen shall have the right to free association and assembly in accordance with the law.

4. Every citizen shall have the freedom to establish or to be a member of a political party or Organization in accordance with the law.

5. Individuals or political parties shall have the right to freedom of movement, to campaign and to express political opinions with full access to the media and information within the limits of the laws of the land.

6. Individual or political parties shall have the right to appeal and to obtain timely hearing against all proven electoral malpractices to the competent judicial authorities in accordance with the electoral laws of the country.

7. Candidates or political parties shall have the right to be represented at polling and counting stations by duly designated agents or representatives.

8. No individual or political party shall engage in any act that may lead to violence or deprive others of their constitutional rights and freedoms. Hence all stakeholders should refrain from, among others, using abusive language and/or incitement to hate or defamatory allegations and provocative language. These acts should be sanctioned by designated electoral authorities.

9. All stakeholders in electoral contests shall publicly renounce the practice of granting favours, to the voting public for the purpose of influencing the outcome of elections.

10. In covering the electoral process, the media should maintain impartiality and refrain from broadcasting and publishing abusive language, incitement to hate, and other forms of provocative language that may lead to violence.

11. Every candidate and political party shall respect the impartiality of the public media by undertaking to refrain from any act which might constrain or limit their electoral adversaries from using the facilities and resources of the public media to air their campaign messages.

12. Every individual and political party participating in elections shall recognize the authority of the Electoral Commission or any statutory body empowered to oversee the electoral process and accordingly render full cooperation to such a Commission/Body in order to facilitate their duties.

13. Every citizen and political party shall accept the results of elections proclaimed to have been free and fair by the competent national bodies as provided for in the Constitution and the electoral laws and accordingly respect the final decision of the competent Electoral Authorities or, challenge the result appropriately according to the law.

V. ELECTION OBSERVATION AND MONITORING BY THE OAU

We request the OAU to be fully engaged in the strengthening of the democratization process, particularly by observing and monitoring elections in our Member States, according to the following guidelines:

1. The observation and monitoring of elections shall be undertaken subject to a memorandum of understanding between the OAU General Secretariat and the host country in accordance with the principles enshrined in this Declaration and the laws of the host country.

2. In performing their obligations, the election observers or monitors shall be guided by detailed guidelines to be prepared by the General Secretariat drawing inspiration from the essential thrust of this declaration, the specific mandates and terms of reference determined by the particular case in question as well as the wider legal framework of the country staging elections.

3. Member States should ensure that invitations to the OAU to participate in election observation or monitoring are sent at least two months before the date of the election.

4. Member States should refrain from imposing any fees and/or charges on OAU observers i.e. registration/accreditation fees etc and facilitate easy access of observers/monitors to locations of electoral events/activities and unhindered in the performance of their tasks.

5. The General Secretariat shall have the right to decline invitations to monitor elections which in its considered opinion, do not measure up to the normative standards enunciated in this Declaration.

VI. ROLE AND MANDATE OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Further request the OAU Secretary General to take all necessary measures to ensure the implementation of this Declaration by undertaking, in particular, the following activities:

a) Strengthen its role in the observation and monitoring of elections within the legal framework of the host country, in accordance with the memorandum of understanding reached with that country;

b) Mobilize extra-budgetary funds to augment the General Secretariat resource base so as to facilitate the implementation of this Declaration;

c) Undertake a feasibility study on the establishment of a Democratization and Electoral Assistance Fund, to facilitate a successful implementation of this Declaration.

d) Undertake a feasibility study on the establishment within the OAU General Secretariat of a Democratization and Election Monitoring Unit that will also discharge issues on good governance;

e) Compile and maintain a roster of African Experts in the filed of election observation and monitoring and democratization in general in order to deploy competent and professional observers and to avails itself of their services whenever necessary. Member States on their part are requested to assist by making the names of their experts available to the General Secretariat;

f) Work out better standards of procedures, preparations and treatment for personnel selected to serve on OAU observer missions.

g) Promote cooperation and work in partnership with African Organizations and International Organizations, as well as national institutions, non-governmental Organizations and civil society groups involved in the elected monitoring and observation work.

h) Publish and make the General Secretariat Reports on the observation/monitoring of elections and other related activities open to all Member States and the public at large, as a means of consolidating electoral and democratic processes on the continent.

AHG/Decl. 2 (XXXVIII)

DECLARATION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN ANGOLA

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of the African Unity, meeting at our Thirty-eighth Ordinary Session, in Durban, South Africa, on the 8 July 2002,

Having taken cognizance of developments in the situation in Angola, as presented by H.E. the President of the Republic of Angola,

Having been solicited by the Angolan Government to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the people recently affected by the war in the country,

1. **WELCOME** the return of peace to Angola which, we are convinced, will bring about peace and tranquility in the Southern and Central African regions as well as in the whole African Continent;

2. **NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** the exemplary implementation of commitments subscribed to within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding to the Lusaka Protocol between the Angolan Armed Forces and UNITA signed on 4 April, 2002 in Luanda.;

3. **COMMEND** the Government and the people of Angola, and in particular, H.E. President JOSE EDUARDO dos SANTOS for the spirit of national reconciliation and magnanimity they have demonstrated and **ENCOURAGE** them to continue in this spirit;

4. **EXPRESS** our willingness to contribute to the ongoing efforts aimed at finding a solution for demobilized soldiers, orphans, internationally displaced persons and other war victims by ensuring their social reintegration and rehabilitation;

5. **APPEAL** to the African community in particular, and the international community in general, to continue to provide urgent humanitarian assistance towards the reconstruction and development of Angola.

AHG/Decl. 3 (XXXVIII)

DECLARATION ON THE CONTROL OF ARTERIAL HYPERTENSION IN AFRICA
- Doc. Ass/AU/3 (I) Add.5

We, Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Organization of African Unity meeting in Durban, South Africa on 8th July 2002,

Anxious to ensure the sustainable preservation and protection of health as a basic necessity of the individual, an inalienable right and an international public good,

Recalling the New African Initiative adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union in Lusaka, Zambia, in July 2001 and later renamed NEPAD which recognizes that poverty eradication, necessary for placing our countries on the path of sustainable growth and development, requires the revitalization of teaching, technical training and health services,

Recognizing that the reduction and eventual elimination of poverty requires bold leadership, building an international partnership and the adoption of policies and strategies aimed at promoting development and strengthening dependable and efficient health systems,

Noting that the objectives set with regard to health promotion need not be solely limited to the control of major communicable diseases, and that non-communicable diseases equally record very high morbidity and mortality rates,

Stressing that the prevalence of cardiovascular diseases, especially arterial hypertension, has assumed alarming dimensions with the tendency towards early occurrence and increased severity,

Further stressing that these diseases which are becoming the major cause of morbidity and invalidity, with the attendant consequences of increased human suffering and health loss in Africa call for a preventative public health approach characterized by a determination to act and by resource mobilization,

Bearing In Mind, the Victoria (Canada) Declaration of 28 May 1992 on Cardiovascular Health, as well as the will to promote Cardiovascular Health awareness in the Third Millennium, which emphasizes prevention and calls for inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary collaboration,

Considering the conclusions and recommendations of the "First Symposium on the Problem of Arterial Hypertension among Black People" organized in Brussels on 11 December 2000, which stressed the urgent need for concerted and collective action with regard to the control of cardiovascular diseases, not only by way of testing and management, but through preventive measures,

Further Considering the conclusions and recommendations of the Libreville Declaration on the Control of Arterial Hypertension in Africa of 6 November 2001,

REAFFIRM the importance of addressing the problem of Non-Communicable Diseases as one that requires a multi-sectoral approach involving all the sectors concerned, especially with regard to health and development policy, production and marketing of pharmaceutical products and research,

DECIDE that the fight against Arterial Hypertension should feature prominently in the development policies of our respective countries;

REQUEST the Secretary General to ensure that this matter is drawn to the attention of the relevant Specialized Technical Committees, upon the establishment of these committees, in

order to ensure the promotion and coordination of research and control activities for arterial hypertension and other cardiovascular diseases..

INVITE the International Community to respond positively to this Declaration by supporting financially and otherwise our efforts to fight against arterial hypertension in Africa.

MANDATE Council to review each year, the progress made in the implementation of this Declaration with a view to ensuring better control of arterial hypertension in Africa.

Annex II

Decisions adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-sixth ordinary session

(Durban, South Africa, 28 June-6 July 2002)

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CM/Dec.651(LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE ORGANIZATION AS AT 31 MAY 2002
- Doc. CM/2244 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **COMMENDS** the following 8 Member States which have made advance payments towards the Financial Year 2002/2003: Angola, Cote d'Ivoire; Libya, Mali, Uganda, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zambia;

3. **COMMENDS** the following 21 Member States which have fully settled their assessed contributions to the regular budget towards the Financial Year ended 31 May 2002:

   Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Lesotho, Libya, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Uganda, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tunisia and Zambia;

4. **DECIDES** that the financial year of the African shall begin on 1st January and end on 31 December;

CM/Dec.652(LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE EIGHTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTRIBUTIONS - Doc. CM/2245 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **EXPRESSES SERIOUS CONCERN** about the increasing arrears of contributions, thus undermining the capacity of the Secretariat to carry out approved programmes and activities;

3. **GRANTS** temporary and exceptional exemption from sanctions to Niger on account of default of payment of contribution to the regular budget till the approval of the budget for the Financial Year 2002/2003;

4. **MAINTAINS** the sanctions imposed on the following countries: Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe, Union of The Comoros, Liberia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone and Somalia;

5. **ENCOURAGES** defaulting Member States to submit rescheduling plans and fulfill their financial obligations;

6. **APPROVES** the setting up of a Sub-Committee of the Committee on Contributions to look into the ways and means of encouraging Member States to pay their contributions promptly, and **REQUESTS** that the Sub-Committee submit proposals and appropriate recommendations to the Council of Ministers at its next session.

CM/Dec.653(LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE EXPERTS' MEETING HELD ON 3 – 4 JUNE TO REVIEW THE PROPOSALS OF THE UN EXPERT ON THE OAU SCALE OF ASSESSMENT - Doc. CM/2246 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **DECIDES** that the Report be re-examined by a Committee of Experts of Member States, as well as by the Standing Committee on the Review of the OAU Scale of Assessment for appropriate recommendations to the next session of the Executive Council.

CM/Dec.654(LXXVI)

DECISION ON IMPROVEMENT IN THE CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF OAU STAFF - Doc. CM/2247 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **DECIDES** to grant, as an interim measure, a 15% salary increase, across the board, to the entire staff retroactively, with effect from 1st March 2002;

3. **REQUESTS** the General Secretariat to determine in absolute terms, the financial implications of the salary increase granted and to take necessary steps to implement immediately the decision for the benefit of the current Staff;

4. **ALSO REQUESTS** the General Secretariat to incorporate in the Organization's Budget for the Financial Year 2002/2003, the financial implications as determined in (3) above;

5. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the General Secretariat to complete, as a matter of urgency, the study on the conditions of service including salary structure in Botswana and at the SADC Secretariat to complement the work already undertaken by the Consultant on the matters.

CM/Dec.655(LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE DRAFT PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2002-2003 - Doc. CM/2248 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **REQUESTS** the Secretariat to continue to operate on provisional monthly supply vote till 31 December 2002. The monthly vote will be calculated on the basis of the Programme Budget 2001-2002 which stands at US$31 million (Thirty One million United States Dollars)

2. **DECIDES** that the contributions payable by Member States for the period 1 June to 31 December 2002) should be calculated on the basis of the previous budget (2001/2002);

3. **FURTHER DECIDES** that the financial implications of the meetings and conferences, etc. to be organized during the period, should be calculated by the Secretariat and submitted for the approval of the Advisory Committee on Administrative, Financial and Budgetary Matters, prior to the convening of such meetings, Conferences, etc.

CM/Dec.656(LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE WTO-COMPATIBLE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE COTONOU PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
- Doc. CM/2249 (LXXVI) - b

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **RECALLS** the ACP-EU trade negotiations for WTO-compatible trade arrangements scheduled to start on 27 September, 2002;

3. **COMMENDS** Member States that have ratified the Cotonou Partnership Agreement and urges that those that have not yet done so, to ratify without further delay;

4. **CALLS** on all Member States and Regional Economic Communities in the negotiations of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union, to ensure the consistency of these EPAs with the programme of African economic integration under the Abuja Treaty establishing the African Economic Community (Abuja Treaty) and the Constitutive Act of the African Union;

5. **ALSO CALLS** on all Member States and Regional Economic Communities, as EPAs are expected to be notified to the WTO, to participate actively in the current WTO negotiations so as not only to inject flexibility in the WTO rules, especially those relating to regional trading arrangements and to have the development dimension better taken into account, but to make the future EPAs compatible with the WTO;

6. **REITERATES** its call on all Member States and Regional Economic Communities to maintain the solidarity of the African and the ACP Groups and to negotiate as a single bloc;

7. **FURTHER CALLS** on African Member States of the Bi-Regional Group under the Africa-Europe Cooperation to raise the issue of the ratification of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement by the European countries at the meetings of the Group.

CM/Dec.657 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT ON ASSISTANCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY IN AFRICA (INDAFTEL)
- Doc. CM/2249 (LXXVI) - c

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **WELCOMES** the initiative taken by the ITU to launch the project on Assistance for the Development of Telecommunications Industry in Africa (INDAFTEL);

3. **URGES** the ITU to continue to provide support to the project through, among others, allocating more resources for the implementation of the project;

4. **APPEALS** to all Member States to support the project and actively participate in its implementation by appointing national focal persons and allocating resources for the work of the national focal persons;

5. **FURTHER APPEALS** to Africa's development partners to support the project and to provide resources for its implementation;

6. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General of the OAU to consult with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Matters with a view to allocating resources as the contribution of the OAU to the funding of the implementation of the project;

7. **ENDORSES** the establishment of the Inter-agency Coordinating Committee composed of the OAU as Chairman, the ECA as the Vice Chairman, the ITU as the Lead and Executing Agency, and with UNIDO, ATU, RASCOM and the RECs as members, and entrusts it with the responsibility of supervising and monitoring the implementation of the project; and

8. **REQUESTS** the Inter-agency Coordinating Committee to regularly report to it through the Secretary General of the OAU.

CM/Dec.658 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE FOLLOW-UP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABUJA DECLARATION AND FRAMEWORK PLAN OF ACTION ON HIV/AIDS, TB AND OTHER RELATED INFECTIOUS DISEASES (ORID)
-Doc. CM/2249 (LXXVI) - d

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **ACKNOWLEDGES AND ENDORSES** the Mechanism for Monitoring and Reporting on the Implementation of the Abuja Declaration and Plan of Action on HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID as well as the Guidelines on how to operationalise use the Mechanism as adopted by the African Ministers of Health;

3. **REITERATES** its commitment to using its leadership position at all levels in order to mobilize the whole society in the fight against HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID;

4. **COMMENDS** Member States for establishment, through the participatory process, of national HIV/AIDS Strategies and Plans of Action, creation of National HIV/AIDS Councils, adoption of multisectoral approaches and the channeling of public resources directly to communities and civil society organizations for the fight against the pandemic;

5. **APPEALS** to Member States to likewise establish and operationalise National Strategies to implement Directly Observed Treatment-Short Course (DOTS) in the fight against Tuberculosis;

6. **URGES** Member States to commit adequate domestic resources to research into ways and means of fighting against HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID;

7. **ALSO APPEALS** to the International Community and stakeholders to support Member States in the implementation of the Abuja Declaration and Framework Plan of Action;

8. **FURTHER APPEALS** to UNAIDS, WHO and all UN Agencies, Stakeholders and Donors to support Africa in a quest for debt-relief in favour of the fight against these diseases and **FURTHER URGES** Member States to target funds thus saved to accelerate Health Systems Reform with a focus to fighting against HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID;

9. **REQUESTS** the General Secretariat in collaboration with UNAIDS to facilitate negotiations with multinational drug corporations with a view to promoting access to drugs at affordable price;

10. **REQUESTS** UNAIDS, WHO, UNICEF and all other relevant partners to assist the General Secretariat both technically and financially to strengthen its capacity in order to be able to follow-up, monitor and report on the implementation of the Decision and Plan of Action on HIV/AIDS, TB and ORID;

11. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Secretary General in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF, ECA, UNAIDS, ADB and RECs to follow-up on the implementation of National Strategic Plans on HIV/AIDS and TB as outlined in the Abuja Framework Plan of Action and report regularly to Council about progress made by member States.

CM/Dec.659(LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE PROGRESS BEING MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABUJA DECLARATION AND PLAN OF ACTION ON ROLL-BACK MALARIA
- Doc. CM/2249 (LXXVI) - e

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **REITERATES** its commitment to use its leadership position in mobilizing the whole society in the fight against Malaria in order to reduce the mortality rate due to malaria in Africa by half by year 2010;

3. **COMMENDS** Member States for the inception and implementation of country Strategic Plans for Roll-Back-Malaria;

4. **APPEALS** to Member States to accelerate antimalarial Drug Policy change in order to overcome the challenge of drug resistance of the malaria parasites and vector resistance to insecticides;

5. **FURTHER APPEALS** to UN Agencies, Donors and other international partners to support Member States in building research capacity necessary to prevent and control Malaria;

6. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF to assist Member States in follow-up, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of Roll-Back Malaria Strategic Plan and report to the next Session of the Executive Council.

CM/Dec.660 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE PROGRESS REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION OF THE EDUCATION DECADE IN AFRICA
- Doc. CM/2245 (LXXVI) - f

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **REITERATES** its recommendations to Member States to implement the Programme of the Decade of Education at national level;

3. **APPROVES** the strategy of the Secretary General who has opted for a regional approach to, and regional management of the Decade, particularly through the organization of regional seminars and establishment of regional coordination structures;

4. **EXPRESSES GRATITUDE** in this regard, to the countries which hosted the five (5) regional seminars on the Decade, as well as the countries hosting the regional coordination secretariats, and those which accepted to second officials to work for the Decade, while remaining in their respective countries, namely: The Gambia, Cameroon, Gabon, Kenya, Mozambique and Libya;

5. **ALSO EXPRESSES GRATITUDE** to the partners which so readily provided invaluable assistance towards implementation of the Programme of Action of the Decade, particularly UNESCO/IICBA, ECOWAS, SADC, CEN-SAD, and others;

6. **CALLS UPON** the Regional Economic Communities to develop integrated education programmes for inclusion in their overall development programmes with a view to strengthening human resource capacities in Africa;

7. **ENDORSES** the recommendations of the Second ordinary session of the Decade Steering Committee which took place in Tripoli in April 2002, particularly the call on African Member States to accede to the Pan-African Institute for Development Education (IPED), and **URGES** the Pan-African Union to provide financial assistance to the Institute;

8. **INVITES** international institutions/organizations as well as concerned bilateral and multi-lateral partners to extend their support to the General Secretariat towards mobilizations of the additional resources needed to implement the Programme of Action of the Decade and the regional projects identified at the level of each Regional Economic Community.

CM/Dec.661(LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUMMIT DECISION ON THE ERADICATION OF TSETSE FLIES FROM AFRICA - Doc. CM/2250 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **RECALLS** Decision AHG/Dec.156 (XXXVI) urging Member States to rise collectively to the challenge of eliminating the scourge of tsetse-transmitted diseases from Africa and assigning the Secretary General the task of initiating and coordinating a Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign (PATTEC) as well as Decision AHG/Dec.169 (XXXVII) endorsing a Plan of Action prepared by the Secretariat for the implementation of the Pan African tsetse eradication campaign;

3. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the establishment of the PATTEC Policy and Mobilisation Committee and **URGES** its members to actively seek ways of guiding and generating support for the PATTEC initiative;

4. **COMMENDS** the efforts of those African countries which had already embarked on tsetse eradication projects and **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the International Atomic Energy Agency for the support and assistance extended to Member States and the Secretariat in the implementation of the PATTEC initiative;

5. **URGES** all affected countries to include tsetse eradication in their national priorities, within their Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers so as to qualify for debt relief mechanisms or other forms of budgetary support to ensure its implementation;

6. **APPEALS** to the international community to lend technical and financial support to the efforts of Member States and the Secretariat in implementing the PATTEC initiative;

7. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to continue reminding all Member States about their individual and collective obligations in the struggle to eliminate the scourge of tsetse-transmitted diseases from Africa, to monitor the progress made in this endeavour and to report on the issue every year;

8. **CALLS UPON** the Secretary General to include a budgetary provision in the Budget of the African Union to cater for the activities of the General Secretariat in coordinating the PATTEC initiative.

CM/Dec. 662 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE SITUATION IN LIBERIA
- Doc. CM/2254 (LXXVI) - a

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **CONDEMNS** all attempts to seize power by force in Liberia;

3. **CALLS ON** all States in the region to cease support for armed groups from neighbouring countries and prevent armed groups from using their territories to prepare and stage attacks on neighbouring countries;

4. **URGES** all the parties to the conflict in Liberia to urgently engage in a process of dialogue and reconciliation;

5. **ENCOURAGES** ECOWAS, working together with the OAU and other members of the International Community, to persevere in current efforts to launch that process of dialogue between the parties;

6. **COMMENDS** the leaders of the Mano River Union for the progress achieved so far in implementing the decisions of the Mano River Union summit of 27 February 2002, at Rabat, Morocco;

7. **CALLS ON** the United Nations Security Council to lift the sanctions imposed by it on Liberia, in the light of their grave socio-economic impact on the populace;

8. **EXPRESSES CONCERN** over the grave humanitarian situation obtaining in Liberia and the neighbouring countries as a consequence of the fighting in that country and **CALLS UPON** OAU Member States and the International Community, as a whole, to provide the required assistance to the affected population;

9. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to continue with the initiatives and consultations that are aimed at contributing to the efforts to bring peace to Liberia.

CM/Dec. 663 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE SITUATION IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)
-Doc. CM/2254 (LXXVI) - b

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **REAFFIRMS** its commitment to the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the DRC, as well as its sovereignty over its natural resources and the commitment made by all neighouring countries of the DRC, under the provisions of the Charters of the OAU and UN, as well as of the Constitutive Act of the African Union, to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the DRC;

3. **WELCOMES** the commitment of the parties, renewed during the Fourth Summit held in Lusaka, Zambia, on 3 April 2002, to comply with the provisions of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, as the only framework negotiated and accepted by all the Parties for a lasting solution to the conflict in the DRC. In this respect, Council **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** that, in general, the parties have respected the ceasefire and implemented the combatants' disengagement and redeployment plans and sub-plans of Kampala and Harare;

4. **EXPRESSES,** however, concern over serious violations of the ceasefire reported in some parts of the DRC, including military operations by armed groups in the Eastern part of the DRC;

5. **URGES** all concerned parties including those who supply these groups to take the necessary measures to put an end to such incursions including the cessation of all political, military and economic support which enabled them to continue their activities;

6. **TAKES NOTE** of the progress made during the negotiations which took place in Sun City, South Africa, from 25 February to 19 April 2002 within the framework of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue and **URGES** the parties to work towards the conclusion of an inclusive and comprehensive agreement, in compliance with the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;

7. **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the Facilitator, Sir Ketumile Masire, for his commitment to the cause of reconciliation in the DRC as well as to President Thabo Mbeki for his active involvement in the Dialogue and for South Africa's generous contribution which facilitated the Dialogue, as well as its material support which made it possible;

8. **WELCOMES** the appointment, by the United Nations Secretary General, of a Special Envoy for the Inter-Congolese Dialogue in the person of Mr. Moustapha Niasse and **REQUESTS** the OAU Secretary General to continue to provide him with all the necessary support;

9. **WELCOMES ALSO** the appointment of a Special Representative of the OAU Secretary General in the DRC in the person of Mr. Martin BONGO of the Republic of Gabon;

10. **ENCOURAGES** the countries signatory to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement to pursue their contacts with a view to establishing conditions conducive to the implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;

11. **CONDEMNS** the incitements to violence and acts of violence perpetrated in Kisangani in mid-May, as well as reprisals against local civilian populations

and **URGES** RCD-Goma to demilitarize the city of Kisangani and its environs without delay, in compliance with UN Security Council Resolutions 1304 and 1355 and the commitment made by the DRC to that effect;

12. **WELCOMES** the adoption by the Security Council, of Resolution 1417 (2002) of 14 June 2002 which, inter-alia, decided to extend the mandate of MONUC until 30 June 2003. Council, however, remains concerned about the fact that the Security Council neither accepted the increase of MONUC Forces, as recommended by the United Nations Secretary General, nor reinforced the latter's mandate to turn it into a peace-keeping force, as recommended by the Fourth Summit of Signatory Parties and the Political Committee during its meeting in Luanda on 1 May 2002;

13. **URGES** the UN to increase the capacity and mandate of MONUC on the ground in the DRC so that it can effectively implement the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;

14. **URGES ALSO** the parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement to take the necessary measures to enable MONUC to successfully carry out the tasks assigned to it under Phase III of its deployment, namely, the combatants' Disarmament, Demobilization, Repatriation, Resettlement and Reintegration (DDRRR) Programme;

15. **REITERATES** the importance of total withdrawal of all Foreign Forces from the DRC. To this end, **EXPRESSES** concern over the slowing down observed in the process for withdrawal of foreign troops and **UNDERSCORES** the obligation of all States concerned to honour their specific commitments according to the terms of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement;

16. **RENEWS ITS APPEALS** to OAU Member States and the international community at large to continue to support the peace process in the DRC, including assistance to the DDRRR Programmes and the withdrawal of foreign troops, as well as the Inter-Congolese National Dialogue;

17. **EXPRESSES** serious concern over the humanitarian situation and repeated violations of the international humanitarian law in DRC;

18. **APPEALS** to all Member States and the international community at large to provide further assistance to the needy populations and **URGES** all parties concerned to put an end to acts of violence against civilians and respect international human rights.

CM/Dec. 664 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE SITUATION IN THE COMOROS - Doc. CM/2254 (LXXVI) - d

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **WELCOMES** the restoration of the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros and the establishment of the Executive of the Union of the Comoros and the Autonomous Islands;

3. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** at the election of the President of the Union of the Comoros, Colonel Azali Assoumani, and the Presidents of the Autonomous Islands of Anjouan, Grand Comoros and Moheli;

4. **CONGRATULATES** the newly elected authorities of the Union and the Autonomous Islands and **URGES** them and all the other Comorian parties involved in the reconciliation process to continue to demonstrate the same spirit of dialogue and accommodation to enable them to complete the setting up of the institutions of the Union and the Autonomous Islands, and to further the reconciliation process;

5. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the countries of the Region, under the coordination of the Republic of South Africa, and the Secretary General and his collaborators for their sustained efforts aimed at preserving the unity and territorial integrity of the Comoros and facilitating the establishment of constitutional rule in the country;

6. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to all OAU Partners in the Comoros, namely: l'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, the European Union, the United Nations, the League of Arab States and others, for their continuous support for the efforts of the OAU in the Comoros;

7. **APPEALS** to OAU Member States and the international community at large to provide to the Comoros the necessary financial assistance aimed at improving the living conditions of the population and promoting the socio-economic development of the country;

8. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in consultation with the Comorian authorities and the Government of Mauritius, to finalize the preparations for the convening, as soon as possible, of the Donors Conference on the Comoros.

CM/Dec. 665 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA
- Doc. CM/2254 (LXXVI) - e

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **WELCOMES** the signing in April 2002, by the respective military Chiefs of the Angola Armed Forces and UNITA troops, of a Memorandum of Understanding supplementary to the Lusaka Protocol for the Cessation of Hostilities and the Resolution of Pending Military Issues under the Lusaka Protocol, as well as progress made in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding;

3. **WELCOMES ALSO** the commitment of the Angolan Government to a lasting peace and reconciliation in the country in accordance with the Lusaka Protocol. In this connection, Council **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the communiqué issued on 13 March 2002 by the Angolan Government, in which it announced the measures it intends to take within the context of the peace process;

4. **UNDERSCORES** the need to maintain the sanctions against UNITA until the peace process is consolidated. To this end, Council **WELCOMES** the decision of the Security Council of 18 April 2002 to extend the mandate of the United Nations Monitoring Mechanism for a further period of six months;

5. **TAKES NOTE** of the report of the OAU Ad-Hoc Committee on the Monitoring of the UN Security Council Sanctions against UNITA as presented by its Chairman, **COMMENDS** the efforts of the Committee and **EXPRESSES SUPPORT** for the work carried out by the Committee;

6. **SUPPORTS** the initiative of the Angolan Government to embark on public investment programme aimed at mobilizing resources for the post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation, as well as for socio-economic development;

7. **APPEALS** to the International Community to continue to contribute to the post-conflict reconstruction efforts and provide Angola with humanitarian assistance including integration of UNITA combatants into the national army or their return to civilian life, demining, as well as rehabilitation of displaced persons and repatriation of refugees. To this end, Council **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** for the Angolan Government's commitment to work closely with the International Community;

8. **REITERATES** the readiness of the OAU/AU to support the efforts of the Angolan people and their leaders for a lasting peace and sustainable development.

CM Dec. 666 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY, STABILITY, DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION IN AFRICA (CSSDCA) PROCESS – Doc. CM/2255 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** of the outcome of the Experts' meeting on the Development and Cooperation Calabashes and the Experts' meeting on the Security and Stability Calabashes, convened in Midrand, South Africa and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 9 – 13 December 2001 and 14 – 17 May 2002 respectively;

3. **WELCOMES** the convening of the second OAU-Civil Society Conference on Developing Partnership between the OAU and African Civil Society Organizations, held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 11 – 15 June 2002;

4. **TAKES NOTE** of the recommendations of the second OAU-Civil Society Conference, in particular, those relating to the African Union and the CSSDCA Process;

5. **COMMENDS** Nigeria and South Africa for their generous contribution of five hundred thousands dollars (US$500,000) each for the implementation of the CSSDCA Process, and **CALLS UPON** other Members States to also provide financial support to the process;

6. **ENDORSES** the Memorandum of Understanding on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation adopted by the two Experts meeting as enriched by the OAU-Civil Society Conference;

7. **DECIDES** to submit the Memorandum of Understanding on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation and the recommendations of the second OAU-Civil Society Conference for the consideration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

CM/Dec. 667 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE SITUATION OF REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS
Doc. CM/2256 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN** over the magnitude, complexity and recurrence of the refugee phenomenon in Africa, as well as the serious violations of human rights of which refugee populations particularly children, are victims;

3. In this connection, **DENOUNCES AND CONDEMNS** sexual violence and exploitation of refugee children and **DEMANDS** that the perpetrators of such acts be brought to justice and punished;

4. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the commendable efforts deployed by some countries of asylum and countries of origin to promote the voluntary repatriation of refugees in conditions of security and dignity;

5. **REITERATES** the civilian and humanitarian nature of asylum and **CALLS UPON** host countries in particular to take the necessary steps to ensure that it is provided in conformity with the conventions in force and particularly the 1969 OAU Convention on the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa;

6. **EXPRESSES ITS DEEP GRATITUDE** to the asylum countries of asylum for their hospitality and generosity and **APPEALS** to the international community as a whole to share the burden by providing sustained increased and considerable assistance to the populations and States concerned;

7. **ENCOURAGES** African States to ensure the implementation and regular follow-up of the Global Plan of Action adopted by the special conference of technical, governmental and non-governmental experts which was convened in Conakry by OAU and the UNHCR on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the 1969 Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee problems in Africa;

8. **CALLS UPON** Member States to incorporate, as much as possible, in their national and regional development plans, the specific problems of refugees, especially since they constitute an important human potential which is able to contribute fully in the socio-economic development of their asylum countries;

9. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General and the OAU Commission on Refugees to continue to monitor the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa, and to work in close collaboration with the United Nations, more particularly with the UNHCR as well as concerned humanitarian Organisations, in the search for a lasting solution to this problem.

CM/Dec. 668 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON EXTERNAL SUPPORT TO ECONOMIC INTEGRATION PROGRAMME IN AFRICA - Doc. CM/2259 (LXXVI) - c

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **COMMENDS** the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) and the United Nations Development Programme for the technical and financial assistance they have provided to the process of economic integration in Africa;

3. **CALLS UPON** development partners to accord priority in their development assistance to capacity building for the effective implementation of programmes of regional integration in Africa.

CM/Dec. 669 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE OUTCOME OF THE 15TH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF INDUSTRY (CAMI-15) - Doc. CM/2260 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the Government and People of the Republic of Cameroon for hosting the 15th Session of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (CAMI-15) held in Yaounde, Cameroon, from 22 to 24 October 2001;

3. **CALLS UPON** all Member States to take the necessary measures and actions for the implementation of the Resolution adopted by CAMI-15 as well as the recommendation of the Private Sector Forum;

4. **INVITES** the African Regional Economic Communities, in collaboration with ADB, ECA, UNIDO and other agencies of the UN System, other financing institutions, to develop effective programmes for industrial integration, through coordination and harmonization of policies and strategies in the sector;

5. **REQUESTS** UNIDO to provide the necessary technical assistance to OAU and its Member States as well as to RECs with the view to accelerating the implementation of the recommendations adopted by CAMI-15;

6. **REQUESTS ALSO** the Secretary General, in cooperation with all relevant partners and through coordination with CAMI-15 Bureau, to ensure that Africa's industrialization is accorded high priority in the agenda of the African Union.

CM/Dec. 670 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GEENERAL ON 4TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICAN POPULATION COMMISSION (APC) - Doc. CM/2261 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report:

2. **RECOGNIZES** the challenges African countries are facing in regard to population issues particularly relating to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, Youth and Migration;

3. **EMPHASIZES** the need to strengthen effective and new strategies and priorities for dealing with HIV/AIDS, TB and Other Related Infectious Diseases from an African perspective and resource mobilization context within the framework of the implementation of the Abuja Summit on these diseases;

4. **CALLS UPON** Member States to develop appropriate reproductive health and population growth and development policies and design clearly defined strategies for policies formulated, and fully involve the population at grassroot level, the NGO sector, women's groups, youth groups, etc.. in policy dialogues and consultations;

5. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** Member States to focus on the family, to better identify its roles in the population and development interrelationships as well as to stress the content of policy-decisions and collective responsibilities at national and regional levels;

6. **ENCOURAGES** Regional Economic Communities to establish networks of Member States and strengthen partnerships among them to ensure an effective implementation of the South-South programmes in the field of population and development and to promote regional cooperation in the field of Population and Development through sensitization;

7. **STRESSES** that the APC should continue its advocacy role on population and development matters and that financial and human resources should be provided in the new African Union structure;

8. **APPEALS** to the International Community and donor agencies in particular UNFPA, USAID, NGOs to continue supporting and providing the necessary assistance to achieve the above objectives and to support our efforts for the implementation of the Dakar/Ngor Declaration and the ICPD-PA;

9. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** to UNFPA for supporting the OAU in organizing the 4th General Assembly of the African Population Commission (APC);

10. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General of the OAU, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the ECA and the President of the ADB and other Population Institutions, to monitor developments in population activities in Africa and to submit reports regularly on the progress made in implementing the APC recommendations.

CM/Dec. 671 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE TWENTY-FIFTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE OAU LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION/MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN AFRICA
Doc. CM/2262 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **ENDORSES** the recommendations as contained in the report of the Twenty-fifth Ordinary Session of the OAU Labour and Social Affairs Commission/Ministerial Conference on Employment and Poverty Reduction in Africa, held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 16 – 21 April 2002;

3. **CALLS UPON** Member States to share experiences on building the appropriate infrastructure, reducing illiteracy, enhancing the skills and capacity of employees and surveying the labour markets with a view to creating more job opportunities in Africa;

4. **REQUESTS** Member States to include social protection and work safety areas in their national development priorities and facilitate the development of self-employment strategies, in collaboration with social partners;

5. **REITERATES** its appeal to Member States which have not yet done so to sign and/or ratify the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child as well as the ILO Convention 182 on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour;

6. **CALLS UPON** Member States to include compulsory education, the elimination of child labour as well as children in conflict situations and child trafficking in their priority programmes on children;

7. **ENDORSES** the Plan of Action for the African Decade of People with Disabilities (1999-2009) and **CALLS UPON** Member States to provide the necessary resources for its implementation at national level;

8. **REQUESTS** Member States to accord priority to the Migration for Development in Africa (MIDA) and promote the return of migrants to their countries of origin, create job opportunities for them and encourage them to invest in their countries with a view to reducing poverty. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is called upon to assist African countries in this regard;

9. **REQUESTS ALSO** the Secretary General, in collaboration with the ILO and other interested stakeholders and in consultation with Regional Economic Communities, to convene a meeting at Experts level to develop a Social Policy Framework for the Continent;

10. **SUPPORTS** the re-election of Mr. Juan Somavia as Director General of the ILO for a second mandate during the 286th Session of the ILO Governing Board in March 2003.

CM/Dec. 672 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE OAU MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON DRUG CONTROL IN AFRICA - Doc. CM/2263 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Ministerial Conference on Drug Control in Africa;

2. **ENDORSES** the recommendations contained therein and **MANDATES** the Secretary General to follow up and monitor their implementation;

3. **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to the Government of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire for hosting the First Ministerial Conference on Drug Control in Africa from 6 to 11 May 2002;

4. **EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION** to, in particular, the UNDCP and all the UN Agencies and other stakeholders for their technical and financial support and assistance in the preparation and holding of the Ministerial Conference on Drug Control in Africa;

5. **RECOGNIZES** that illicit drug trafficking, abuse, cultivation as well as alcoholism and other related problems are fast gaining momentum on the Continent;

6. **ENDORSES** the revised Declaration and Plan of Action on Drug Control and Illicit Drugs Trafficking and Abuse in Africa as adopted by the Ministerial Conference;

7. **FURTHER ENDORSES** the African Common Position for the Ministerial Segment of the 46th Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drug (CND), scheduled to be held in April 2003, in Vienna, Austria, and **CALLS UPON** the Bureau of the Ministerial Conference on Drug Control, in collaboration with the OAU Secretariat, the UNDCP and the African Group in Vienna to strengthen the document as they deem appropriate;

8. **INVITES** Member States to renew their commitment to fight the drug scourge as contained in the Declaration and mobilize requisite human and financial resources to implement the Plan of Action at their national levels;

9. **APPEALS** to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and World Health Organization (WHO) to consider further financial assistance towards implementation of the revised and updated OAU Plan of Action on Drug Control in Africa;

10. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General, consistent with the decisions of the 1st OAU Ministerial Conference on Drug Control, to organize training workshops on alternative development for the eradication of illicit cultivation of cannabis in Africa, initiate measures to integrate drug control policies and activities within the NEPAD programmes and undertake studies on the effects of Drugs, HIV/AIDS and conflicts on socio-economic development in Africa.

11. **CALLS UPON** the Secretariat, in collaboration with its developing partners and donor countries, to explore the possibilities of establishing an African Fund for Drug Control;

12. **EXPRESSES GRATITUDE** to the Government of the Republic of Mauritius for offering to host the next Ministerial Conference to be held in 2004;

13. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the Secretary General to strengthen the Drug Control Focal Point of the General Secretariat, give it more visibility in the new structure of the African Union and provide it with necessary funds within its budget;

14. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to submit progress reports on implementation of the Declaration and Plan of Action to subsequent sessions of Council.

CM/Dec. 673 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH IN AFRICA: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION
Doc. CM/2264 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **REAFFIRMS** its commitment to its 1987 Addis Ababa Declaration on Health as a Foundation for Development;

3. **RECOGNIZES** the vital role played by human resources, in the promotion of health and general well-being of all communities worldwide and that inadequate human resources has been one of the major challenges to health systems development in Africa;

4. **ACKNOWLEDGES** that brain drain has compounded the shortage of human resources on the Continent;

5. **CALLS UPON** each Member State to develop a realistic plan for development of human resources for health, motivate existing personnel through problem-oriented training and improvement of conditions of service, as well as upgrade skills of personnel working in the health sector in order to adequately respond to existing and emerging health issues especially preventive care;

6. **DECLARES** year 2004 as the Year for Development of Human Resources in Africa;

7. **REQUESTS** WHO, OAU/AU, World Bank and other relevant partners to establish an International Partnership for Human Resources Development (HRD) for Health for the purpose of conducting Health Sector Reforms on a sustainable basis at country level, and promote a code of ethics in international recruitment of health staff especially from Africa with the view to establishing a mechanism on how African countries can be compensated for such brain drain;

8. **ALSO REQUESTS** WHO, World Bank and other relevant partners and Institutions to regularly provide financial support to Member States in their efforts to promote and develop Human Resources in the Health Sector;

9. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in collaboration with WHO and other interested partners, to call for a special Summit in 2003/2004 to consider the issue of Human Resources Development and its impact on Health Sector Reforms with special focus on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

CM/Dec. 674 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON AFRICAN SOLIDARITY IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE 8TH ALL-AFRICA GAMES IN NIGERIA

Council:

1. **RECALLS** Resolution CM/Res.1305 (LII) of its Fifty-Second Ordinary Session conferring OAU patronage on and support for the All-Africa Games;

2. **RECOGNIZES** the critical financial situation of SCSA caused by the non-payment by Member States of their statutory subscriptions to the budget of the Organization;

3. **CALLS UPON** Member States to contribute to the success of the 8th All-Africa Games in Nigeria by ensuring the participation of their best athletes in the Games;

4. **STRONGLY APPEALS** to all Member States to take all appropriate measures to honour their pledges of financial contributions to SCSA in good time to enable it prepare adequately for the successful organization of the 8th All-Africa Games in Nigeria;

5. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to assist the SCSA Secretariat in its efforts to organize successful games

CM/Dec. 675 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE PARTICIPATION OF OAU MEMBER STATES IN THE WORLD SUMMIT ON INFORMATION SOCIETY

Council:

1. **RECALLS** Resolution 1179 endorsed by the Council of the International Telecommunications Union at its meeting of June 2001 which approved the organization of a World Summit on Information Society in two phases: Geneva 2003 and Tunis 2005,

2. **FURTHER RECALLS** Resolution 56/183 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2001 in support of the convening of this Summit,

3. **ALSO RECALLS** the Bamako Declaration adopted at the African Regional Conference preparatory to the Summit held in Bamako from 28 to 30 May 2002 and the recommendations emanating from the Conference,

4. **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the final Declaration of the Ministerial Conference of the PNA held in Durban from 27 to 29 April 2002 and the appeal launched by the Ministers for active participation of developing countries in the Summit process,

5. **UNDERSCORES** the stakes of the second phase of the Summit to be held in Tunis in 2005 and whose deliberation will focus on major development themes particularly identification of the most appropriate ways and means of reducing the digital gap,

6. **FURTHER UNDERSCORES** the importance of the information society on economic, socio-political and cultural development and the strategic objectives of developing countries in this area,

7. **CALLS UPON** Member States to participate actively and consistently in the preparation of, and in the Tunis Summit to guarantee the adoption of a real partnership strategy that will reduce the digital gap and ensure better adaptation to this new global technological environment, and thus give the information society a stable foundation anchored on the equality of the various partners;

8. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** Member States to set up a national coordination and follow-up mechanism to prepare for the two phases of the Summit;

9. **APPEALS** to Member States to engage in brainstorming to develop a common information society approach and ensure better access to information and communication technologies within the framework of global and balanced development with due respect for diversity.

CM/Dec.676 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE AFRICAN DECADE OF DISABLED PERSONS

Council:

1. **RECALLS** Decision CM/Dec.535 (LXXII) proclaiming 1999-2009 as the African Decade of Disabled Persons;

2. **EXPRESSES DEEP CONCERN** about the increasing number of people with disabilities in the Continent due to social and political crises;

3. **RECOGNIZES** the need to integrate people with disabilities in the society, empower them and involve them in the formulation and implementation of the social and economic development policies of the Continent;

4. **ENDORSES** the Plan of Action for the African Decade of People with Disabilities as adopted by the 25th Session of the Labour and Social Affairs Commission held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 16 – 21 April 2002;

5. **URGES** Member States to allocate sufficient funds to all relevant Ministries dealing with people with disabilities to ensure effective implementation of disability programmes and to establish National Coordinating Committees (NCC) to coordinate all disability issues and include people with disabilities in their national programmes;

6. **CALLS UPON** relevant United Nations Institutions as well as other partners to assist in the implementation of the Plan of Action;

7. **FURTHER CALLS UPON** Member States to report to the OAU Secretariat through the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI) on the implementation of the Plan of Action;

8. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to submit progress reports to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government every two years.

CM / Dec. 677 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION (UNCCD) IN COUNTRIES SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA, AND ITS CONSIDERATION DURING DELIBERATIONS OF THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Council:

1. **AFFIRMS** that the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification constitutes an innovative and vital instrument for realizing the objectives of sustainable development as contained in Agenda 21, and the objectives of poverty elimination as spelt out in the Millennium Summit Declaration;

2. **FURTHER AFFIRMS** that desertification is one of the main causes of poverty due particularly to the correlation between degradation of soils and poverty in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-tropical regions, especially in Africa,

3. **WELCOMES** the convening on African soil of the World Summit on Sustainable Development scheduled to take place in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, ten years after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992;

4. **RECOGNISES** that the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), underscores desertification control as a major component of the Environment and Sustainable Development programme in Africa;

5. **TAKES DUE NOTE** of the conclusions of the Africa – Latin America and Caribbean Inter-regional Forum, held in Caracas, Venezuela, from 18 to 20 February 2002; the conclusions of the Eminent Persons' Panel held in Agades, Niger, from 24 to 28 February 2002, as well as the Forum on CCD Implementation held in Praia, Cape Verde, from 5 to 8 March 2002 preparatory to the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

6. **EXPRESSES APPRECIATION** for the messages addressed to the Johannesburg Summit and the contents of the Caracas Declaration, the Agades Appeal and the Praia Ministerial Message, all pertaining not only to the recognition of the correlation between poverty reduction and desertification control, but also to effective financing by the International Community of Desertification Control Programmes of Action in affected developing countries, particularly in Africa;

7. **URGES** the Second General Assembly of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) due in Beijing, in October 2002, to appoint the Facility as the Convention's funding mechanism;

8. **INVITES** all participants in the Johannesburg Summit to take cognizance of the contents of this decision during their deliberations and take appropriate measures and decisions with a view to ensuring the successful implementation of a desertification control programme;

9. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to follow up on the implementation of this decision in collaboration with the CCD Executive Secretary and South Africa the host country of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

CM/Dec. 678 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

Council:

1. **EXPRESSES SATISFACTION** at the progress made in the implementation of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement, especially the establishment of Transition Institutions and the commencement of the process of repatriating Burundian refugees living in Tanzania;

2. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to the Facilitator Nelson Mandela for his commitment to work with the people of Burundi to ensure the return of lasting peace to the country;

3. **EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERN** over the continuing armed clashes in Burundi which mainly affect the civilian population and pose a serious threat to the peace process;

4. **UNDERSCORES** the need to intensify efforts aimed at the cessation of hostilities, followed by a cease-fire agreement. To this end, Council **NOTES WITH SATISFACTION** the Mediation effort under the leadership of President El Hadj Omar Bongo of Gabon and the South African Deputy President, Jacob Zuma, as well as the initiatives taken by H.E. President Benjamin Mkapa of Tanzania and his Government, the countries of the Regional Initiative under the leadership of President Yoweri K. Museveni of Uganda, and the Tanzania and the OAU Secretary General to bring the armed groups to enter into negotiations in good faith and in a constructive manner with a view to an immediate end to the fighting, and the signing of a cease-fire agreement;

5. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in close consultation with the Mediation and the Regional Initiative, to intensify his contacts with the various armed groups with a view to encouraging them to seriously pursue negotiations with the Burundian Government and contributing in a constructive manner to the search for a lasting peace in Burundi;

6. **URGES** the parties signatory to the Arusha Agreement to continue to exhibit the same commitment to the peace process and to demonstrate the spirit of compromise and tolerance necessary for the pursuit and consolidation of the peace process;

7. **MAKES AN URGENT APPEAL** to the International Community to provide the necessary assistance to enable Burundi to cope with the economic difficulties facing the country. To this end, Council **RENEWS ITS APPEAL** to the concerned countries and multilateral institutions to honour the commitments they had made during the Paris and Geneva meetings;

8. **ALSO APPEALS** to the international community to provide increased humanitarian assistance to the Burundian population and, in this regard, **HAILS** the efforts deployed by the General Secretariat to help alleviate the suffering of the needy population.

CM/Dec. 679 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE CANDIDATURE OF DR. KAMIL IDRIS FOR HIS RE-ELECTION TO THE POST OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO)

Council:

1. **RECALLS** Decision CM/Dec.650 (LXXV) by which the Council of Ministers decided to support the candidature of Dr. Kamil Idris (The Sudan) presented by the African Group in Geneva for re-election to the post of Director General of WIPO;

2. **REAFFIRMS** that Intellectual Property is a strong tool for development and **EXPRESSES ITS GRATITUDE** to WIPO for the assistance provided by WIPO to Africa in this field;

3. **WELCOMES** the very positive achievements of Dr. Kamil Idris at the Head of WIPO, and the overwhelming support of the Member States of WIPO for his re-election as Director General of WIPO;

4. **CALLS UPON** all Member States of WIPO to support the African candidate, Dr. Kamil Idris, for the post of Director General of WIPO;

5. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to take appropriate action in support of the candidature of Dr. Kamil Idris.

CM/Dec. 680 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REVISION OF THE 1968 AFRICAN CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES (ALGIERS CONVENTION) - Doc. CM/2265 (LXXVI)

Council:

1. **COMMENDS** the OAU General Secretariat, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), for their endeavour to update the 1968 African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources to the level and standard of modern international environment and natural resources instruments;

2. **FURTHER COMMENDS** the Governments of Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon and Nigeria, Parties to the 1968 Convention, for their initiative to bring about the revision of the Convention;

3. **ENDORSES** the revised African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources;

4. **REQUESTS** the Assembly of Heads of State and Government to adopt the Revised Convention;

5. **CALLS UPON** the Secretary General, UNEP, IUCN and relevant agencies of the United Nations system to ensure that the Revised Convention is opened for signature at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in August/September 2002.

6. **URGES** all Member States to, as soon as possible, sign and ratify the said Convention, upon its adoption by the Heads of State and Government, in order to bring it into force at the earliest possible time.

7. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General to take the necessary measures to ensure that Member States sign and ratify the revised Convention.

CM/Dec. 681 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE FOLLOW UP ON THE FIRST AFRICA-EUROPE SUMMIT AND PREPARATIONS FOR THE SECOND AFRICA-EUROPE SUMMIT

Council:

1. **RECOGNIZES** the need for effective preparation for the Second Africa-Europe Summit, in view of the limited progress in the implementation of the Cairo Plan of Action adopted by the First Summit;

2. **REQUESTS** the OAU Follow-up Committee and the OAU Core Group to ensure that the Fifth meeting of the Africa-Europe Bi-Regional Group take place during the second half of September 2002;

3. **FURTHER REQUESTS** the OAU Follow-up Committee to ensure that all aspects of the preparatory arrangements for the second Africa-Europe Ministerial Conference in Ouagadougou, due in November 2002, are fully coordinated with the Government of Burkina Faso, the host country and in cooperation with all the RECs, ECA and ADB;

4. **CALLS UPON** all Member States to participate in the Second Ministerial Conference and **APPEALS** to all EU Member States to honour their commitments under the Cairo Plan of Action and to cooperate with the African side, so as to ensure that the Conference adopts concrete measures and actions for implementation of the Cairo Plan of Action, and for identification of specific issues to be addressed by the second Africa-Europe Summit in 2003;

5. **URGES** all African Union and European Union Member States to be represented at the Ouagadougou Conference by Ministers;

6. **SUBMITS** the offer by Portugal to host the Second Africa-Europe Summit in Lisbon from 4 to 5 April 2003 to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, for approval;

7. **REQUESTS** the Secretary General, in cooperation with the RECs, to take all the necessary measures to provide technical support for all the preparatory arrangements, as well as to the 5th Meeting of the Bi-regional Group, the Ouagadougou Ministerial Conference and the Second Africa-Europe Summit.

CM/Dec. 682 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON INTRODUCING KISWAHILI AS A WORKING LANGUAGE OF THE AFRICAN UNION

Council:

1. **RECALLS** Article 25 of the Constitutive Act of the African Union (AU) on the working languages of the African Union providing for, if possible, the use of African languages;

2. **ALSO RECALLS** Rule 15 of the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council;

3. **FURTHER RECALLS** Resolution CMAC/16 (I) on the use of Kiswahili as one of the African Languages in OAU meetings, adopted by the First Conference of African Ministers of Culture in 1986 in Port-Louis, Mauritius, and approved by the Council of Ministers of the OAU;

4. **REQUESTS** the General Secretariat to put in place appropriate arrangements to operationalise the decision to adopt Kiswahili as one of the working languages of the African Union as soon as possible.

CM/Dec. 683 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON MAINSTREAMING GENDER AND WOMEN'S ISSUES IN THE AFRICAN UNION

Council:

1. **REITERATES** its call, enshrined in Article 4 (1) of the Constitutive Act, for the African Union, to promote gender equality;

2. **TAKES NOTE** of the efforts so far made by the Secretary General to ensure that the African Union pays due attention to gender considerations;

3. **MANDATES** the Secretary General to continue with his efforts to mainstream gender into the African Union and its programmes, and to undertake consultations with Member States and other interested parties, with a view to submitting recommendations for consideration by the Executive Council;

4. **REAFFIRMS** that the gender issue cuts across all the portfolios of the Commission and **WELCOMES** the establishment of a special unit in the Office of the Chairperson of the Commission to coordinate all activities and programmes of the Commission related to gender;

5. **APPEALS** to the Assembly, the Executive Council and the Secretary General/Chairperson of the Commission to ensure that, at the time of setting-up the Commission, due consideration be given to gender balance.

DECISION ON AFRICAN CANDIDATURES FOR POSTS WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Council:

1. **APPROVES** the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee on Candidatures as contained in its report;

2. **DECIDES** therefore to support the following Candidatures:

   a) The Republic of Angola for the position of Non-Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council for the period 2003-2004;

   b) Chief Superintendent Abdatt Ould Senny, of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, for the post of delegate for Africa within the Executive Committee of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) at elections to be held during the 71st Session of the General Assembly of the Organization scheduled for October 2002 in Yaounde, Cameroon;

   c) Judge Abdul G. Koroma, of the Republic of Sierra Leone, for re-election to the International Court of Justice at elections to be held during the 57th Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York;

   d) The Republic of Kenya to represent the East Africa Region within the ILO Governing Body;

   e) Mr. Guy Alain Emmanuel Gauze, of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, for the post of Executive Director of the International Cocoa Organization (ICCO).

   f) The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for the post of: Vice-President of the 57th Session of the United Nations General Assembly;

   g) Mr. Abdelfattah Amor, of the Republic of Tunisia for re-election, as a member of the United Nations Human Rights Committee for the period 2003-2006;

   h) Mr. Hamadoun Ibrahim Touré of the Republic of Mali for re-election to the Telecommunications Development Bureau (TDB) at elections to be held during the next Plenipotentiary Conference of Member States scheduled to take place between 23 September and 18 October 2002 in Marrakech, Morocco;

   i) The Republic of Senegal for a seat on the Industrial Development Board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for the year 2003;

   j) Mr. Nebout Jean Francois Anoma, of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire for the post of Vice President for Africa on the INTERPOL Executive Committee at elections scheduled to take place during the 71st Session of the INTERPOL General Assembly in October 2002, in Yaounde, Cameroon;

   k) Mr. Mohamed Charfi, Judge, of the People's Democratic Republic Of Algeria for the post of Expert on the Civil and Political Rights Committee at elections due to take place in New York in September 2002;

l) Professor Kamel Filali, of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for a seat as Expert on the Committee on the Rights of Children, at elections scheduled to hold in New York, in February 2003;

m) The Federal Republic of Nigeria for membership of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Board of Governors for the period 2003-2004 at elections to be held during the 46th Ordinary Session of the General Assembly in September 2002;

n) Mr. Doudou Ndir, Judge and Director of Criminal Affairs and Pardons, of the Republic of Senegal, for a post as Judge at the International Criminal Court;

o) Mr Evans Arthur Mukolwe, of the Republic of Kenya, for the post of Secretary General of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) at elections scheduled to take place at the WMO Congress in May 2003;

p) Mr. Abdelkeri Boussaid, of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for the post of Deputy Secretary General of the ITU, at elections due to take place in Marrakech from 23 September to 18 October 2002.

q) The Republic of Mauritius as a member of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Council for the term 2002-2006 during the forthcoming Plenipotentiary Conference which will be held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 23 September to 8 October 2002;

r) The Republic of Mali for the membership of the Council of the International Telecommunications Union during the Conference of Plenipotentiaries due to be held from 23 September to 18 October 2002 in the city of Marrakech, Morocco.

s) The Arab Republic of Egypt for the membership of the Council of the International Telecommunications Union during the Conference of Plenipotentiaries due to be held from 23 September to 18 October 2002 in the city of Marrakech, Morocco.

t) Libyan Arab Jamahiriya for the post of President of the 59th Session of the Human Rights Commission at election due to take place during 2003

3. **TAKES NOTE** also of the candidatures of Professor Akua Kuenyehia of the Republic of Ghana, Ms. Pramila Patten, Lawyer of the Republic of Mauritius, Mrs Meriem Belmihoub Zerdani of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Judge Mary Atieno Ang'awa of the Republic of Kenya, and Mrs Tadeletch Haile Michael of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for one of the twelve (12) seats to be filled at elections to be held on 29 August 2002, in New York, at the 12th Meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and **REQUESTS** the Member States concerned to hold consultations on equitable geographical distribution. In any case, candidates for this post shall be elected on the basis of their personal merit.

4. **TAKES NOTE** also of the candidature of the Central African sub-Region, submitted by the Republic of Gabon, on behalf of all Member States of the Sub-Region, for the post of President of the 59th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2004, in addition to that of The Sudan whose candidature Council had already noted, by Decision CM/Dec. 650 (LXXV) in March 2002 and **REQUESTS** the African Group in New York to examine these candidatures and come up with appropriate recommendations.

CM/Dec. 685 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE PROCLAMATION OF THE "AFRICA ENVIRONMENT DAY" - Dec. CM/2264 (LXXVI) Add.3

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report;

2. **WELCOMES** the proposal by the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya regarding the institutionalization of the Africa Environment Day and its celebration on 3 March each year;

3. **DECIDES** that Member States celebrate the Africa Environment Day, by urging enterprises, institutions and centres concerned by environmental problems to undertake the following:

   a) Organization of conferences/debates, symposia and information campaigns to sensitize African populations on environmental problems;

   b) Organization of visits and excursions to beaches, forests, zoological parks and natural reserves with a view to involving the African population in the preservation of the environment;

   c) Focusing efforts on desertification and drought control programmes, as well as optimum and judicious exploitation of natural resources;

   d) Mobilization of all available means of information to cover the celebration of the Africa Environment Day.

CM/Dec. 686 (LXXVI)

DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTION MONITORING UNIT IN AFRICA - Doc. CM/2264 (LXXVI) Add.4

Council:

- **HAVING TAKEN NOTE** of the Report of the Secretary General
- **RECALLING** Decision AHG/Dec.142(XXXV) adopted by the OAU Summit in Algiers in 1999 on rejection of unconstitutional changes and promotion of democracy in Africa;
- **REFERRING ALSO** to the Lomé Declaration of July 2000 on the role of the Civil Society in ensuring gender equity in the political process;
- **STRESSING** the importance of OAU involvement in election observation and monitoring as well as the promotion and advancement of the political process in Africa through the use of a more credible and effective approach:
- **DECIDES** to establish an administrative unit for election monitoring within the Office of the Commission responsible for Political Affairs to be responsible for coordinating and streamlining participation in election monitoring in collaboration with the competent authorities of the countries concerned;

1. That the election observer team shall comprise the following:

   a) Representatives of the OAU General Secretariat;

   b) Other members, who should be experienced and competent in the area of election monitoring, shall be selected from OAU Member States and other independent persons. Membership of the team should include women.

2. That those providing members of the team shall bear the cost of their participation where possible.

3. That the observer team shall submit a report on its participation in the election monitoring to the Secretary General, who shall in turn submit it to the Council of Ministers.

Annex III

Decisions and declarations adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its first ordinary session

(Durban, South Africa, 9 and 10 July 2002)

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Ass/AU/Dec. 1 (I)

DECISION ON THE INTERIM PERIOD

The Assembly:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Secretary General on the implementation of the Lusaka Decision AHG/Dec.160 (XXXVII);

2. **DECIDES**:

i. **TO ADOPT** the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly and the Statutes of the Commission;

ii. **THAT THE TRANSITION PERIOD** shall come to an end with the convening of the Inaugural Session of the Assembly;

iii. **TO PROVIDE** for an interim period with effect from 9 July 2002 for a duration of one (1) year after which the Second ordinary session of the Assembly shall appoint the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson as well as the Commissioners through the Executive Council.

iv. **TO DESIGNATE** the Secretary General, the Assistant Secretaries General and the Staff of the General Secretariat of the OAU as the Interim Commission in accordance with Article 33 (4) of the Constitutive Act;

v. **THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL** shall be the Interim Chairperson of the Commission and the Assistant Secretaries General shall be acting Commissioners and to **AUTHORISE** him to allocate the portfolios as appropriate;

vi. **TO AUTHORISE** the Interim Commission to complete its proposals on the structure of the Commission for submission to Member States and undertake all the necessary measures to facilitate the election and appointment of the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson and the Commissioners in July 2003;

vii. **TO AUTHORISE** the Interim Chairperson to prepare the financial implications of the structure of the Commission and undertake the necessary consultations with Member States prior to submitting them to the Executive Council and ultimately to the Assembly in July 2003;

viii. **TO AUTHORISE** the Interim Chairperson to continue implementing the other activities identified in the Secretary General's Report relating to the Lusaka Decision;

ix. **TO AUTHORISE ALSO** the Interim Commission to continue with the process of transferring the assets and liabilities of the OAU to the African Union;

x. **TO URGE** those countries which have not yet ratified the Constitutive Act to do so expeditiously; and to **REITERATE** its appeal to all Member States which have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Protocol on the Pan-African Parliament; and

xi. **THAT** the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the African Committee of Experts on Rights and Welfare of the Child shall henceforth operate within the framework of the African Union;

xii. **TO CONGRATULATE** and **EXPRESS** its appreciation to the Secretary General, the Assistant Secretaries General and the Staff of the General Secretariat on the excellent work done and their dedication and commitment to the cause of the African Union which has made the launching of the African Union possible.

ASS/AU/Dec. 2 (I)

DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION - Doc. AHG/234 (XXXVIII)

The Assembly:

1. **RECALLS** Decision AHG/Dec.160 (XXXVII) of the 37th Ordinary Session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government, to incorporate the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution as one of the organs of the African Union, in accordance with Article 5 (2) of the Constitutive Act and to request the Secretary General to undertake a review of the structures, procedures and working methods of the Central Organ, including the possibility of changing its name;

2. **TAKES NOTE** of Decision AHG/Dec. 184 (XXXVIII) on the establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, adopted by the 76th Ordinary Session of the OAU Council of Ministers, held in Durban, South Africa, from 28 June to 6 July 2002;

3. **ADOPTS** the Protocol on the establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and **CALLS UPON** all Member States to sign and ratify the Protocol so as to ensure its early entry into force;

4. **DECIDES** in the interim that, pending the ratification and entry into force of the Protocol, the Cairo Declaration on the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution shall remain valid.

ASS/AU/Dec. 3 (I)

DECISION ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTIVE ACT OF THE AFRICAN UNION -Doc. AHG/238 (XXXVIII)

The Assembly :

HAVING CONSIDERED the proposal by the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya on Amendments to Articles of the Constitutive Act of the African Union.

DECIDES as follows:

1. The interim Chairperson of the Commission will circulate the Libyan amendments to all Member States;

2. All the proposals for amendment will first be examined by the Executive Council (in accordance with Article 32 of the Act) and submitted for consideration by an Extraordinary Session of the Assembly to be held in six (6) months' time.

ASS/AU/Dec. 4 (I)

DECISION ON THE SITUATION IN MADAGASCAR

The Assembly:

1. **RECALLS** Article 4 (p) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union on the condemnation and rejection of unconstitutional changes of Government;

2. **REAFFIRMS** its commitment to the Algiers Decision and the Lomé Declaration on Unconstitutional Changes of Government, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government during their ordinary sessions held in July 1999 and July 2000, respectively;

3. **COMMENDS** President Levy Patrick Mwanawasa, the outgoing Chairman of the OAU, President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal and the other Heads of State who facilitated the Dakar I Agreement of 18 April 2002, and who proposed the Dakar II Settlement Plan for Madagascar, as well as the Secretary General of the OAU and the Personal Representative of the United Nations Secretary General for their efforts;

4. **ENDORSES** the Communiqué on the situation in Madagascar adopted by the Central Organ meeting, held at Summit level, in Addis Ababa, on 21 June 2002;

5. **ENCOURAGES** Mr. Marc Ravalomanana and all the Malagasy parties to pursue efforts aimed at achieving national reconciliation and cohesion and promoting a peaceful solution to the crisis;

6. **ENCOURAGES** further Mr. Marc Ravalomanana and other Malagasy parties concerned to organise, as soon as possible, elections* as recommended in the Communiqué adopted by the Central Organ meeting at Summit level held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 21 June 2002. These elections must be transparent and free and organised with the assistance of the African Union and the United Nations;

7. **REQUESTS** the Current Chairman of the African Union and the Interim Chairperson of the Commission to assist the Malagasy parties in seeking a peaceful and constitutional solution to the crisis in conformity with the principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union.

*** Reservations expressed by Senegal, which proposes the organization of Legislative elections.**

ASS/AU/Dec. 5 (I)

DECISION ON A COMMON AFRICAN DEFENCE AND SECURITY
-Doc. Ass/AU/3 (i) Add.4

The Assembly:

Welcoming the initiative of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, Leader of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahirya, on the establishment of a single African army,

1. **Stresses** the need for a common African Defence and Security Policy in the context of the Constitutive Act of the African Union.

2. **Requests** the Chairman of the Assembly to establish a group of experts to examine all aspects related to the establishment of a common African defence and security and submit recommendations for the consideration of the next ordinary session of the Assembly.

ASS/AU/Decl. 1 (I)

DECLARATION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD)

1. **WE**, the Heads of State and Government of Member States of the Organisation of African Unity, meeting at the 38th Session of our Assembly in Durban, South Africa on 8th July 2002:

2. **RECALLING** our decision regarding the then New African Initiative taken at the 37th Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in Lusaka, Zambia from 9 to 11 July 2001 (AHG/Decl. 1 (XXXVII);

3. **NOTING WITH APPRECIATION** the report provided to us by the Chairperson of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee, H.E. President O. Obasanjo of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, describing the developments in the NEPAD process over the course of the past year;

4. **FURTHER NOTING** the document submitted to us by H.E. President Obasanjo entitled "Towards the Implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) - Summary of Progress Report and Initial Action Plan" (hereinafter referred to as "Progress Report and Initial Action Plan"), elaborating the first phase for the implementation of NEPAD;

5. **FURTHER NOTING** the Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance submitted by H.E. President Obasanjo, which seeks to foster a strong statement of reaffirmation by African leaders of their commitment to the principles and core values of democracy and good political, economic and corporate governance;

6. **FURTHER NOTING** the document submitted by H.E. President Obasanjo on the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) which is an instrument that will be voluntarily acceded to by Member States of the African Union for the purpose of self-monitoring, and which aims to foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices that will lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated regional integration in the continent;

7. **EMPHASISING** the long term nature of the NEPAD programme and our determination to use all available resources to ensure its successful implementation;

8. **ENDORSE** the Progress Report and Initial Action Plan and RECOMMENDS that Member States wishing to do so, should submit written comments to the Chairman of HSIC;

9. **CALL** for the detailed documents relating to each priority area of the Progress Report and Initial Action Plan to be distributed to all Member States of the African Union;

10. **URGE** that the programmes in each priority area be urgently implemented and that each Member State provide assistance in the further development and implementation of these programmes and in

the continued popularization of NEPAD amongst all sectors of society on the African continent;

11. **REAFFIRM** our commitment to the principles and core values contained in the Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance;

12. **ENCOURAGE** all Member States of the African Union to adopt the Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance and accede to the African Peer Review Mechanism;

13. **MANDATE** the Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee of NEPAD and its Steering Committee to continue the vital task of further elaborating the NEPAD Framework and ensuring the implementation of NEPAD Initial Action Plan until reviewed at the 2nd Assembly of the African Union in Maputo, Mozambique, in 2003;

14. **DECIDE** to increase the number of the members of the Implementation Committee by one per region of the African Union, thus bringing the total number of members of the Committee to twenty;

15. **CALL UPON** the international community to provide continued and enhanced support for our efforts to regenerate the continent.

ASS/AU/Decl. 2 (I)

THE DURBAN DECLARATION IN TRIBUTE TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY ON THE OCCASION OF THE LAUNCHING OF THE AFRICAN UNION

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Assembly of the African Union, meeting in our inaugural session in Durban, South Africa, have adopted the following declaration in tribute to the Organisation of African Unity:

1. Thirty nine years ago, the Heads of State and Government of the then independent African Countries gathered in Addis Ababa Ethiopia to found the Organization of African Unity.

2. The main objectives for establishing the organisation were, *inter alia*, to rid the continent of the remaining vestiges of colonisation and apartheid; to promote unity and solidarity among African States; coordinate and intensify cooperation for development; for the defence of sovereignty, territorial integrity and consolidation of the independence of African States, as well as promoting international cooperation within the framework of the United Nations.

3. The common identity and unity of purpose engendered by the OAU, became a dynamic force at the service of the African people in the pursuit of the struggle for the total emancipation of the African Continent in the political, economic and social fields. Nowhere has that dynamic force proved more decisive than in the African struggle for decolonisation. Through the OAU Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, the Continent worked and spoke as one with undivided determination in forging an international consensus in support of the liberation struggle. Today, we celebrate a fully decolonised Africa and Apartheid has been consigned to the ignominy of history.

4. Pursuant to one of the major objective of its Charter, the OAU has strived to address Africa's problem of poverty and under development and adopted strategies in this regard, including the 1980 Lagos Plan of Action and the Final Act of Lagos which continue to be the blue print for Africa's integration and development.

5. In June 1991, the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community was signed and is now in force. The Treaty seeks to build the African Economic Community through a Common Market built on the Regional Economic Communities. Today, Regional Economic Communities are consolidating and proving to be engines for integration. ECCAS, SADC, COMESA, UMA, ECOWAS, IGAD and CENSAD are making great effort at economic development and integration as well as at promoting peace through conflict resolution in their region. We remain committed to continental and global cooperation including the strengthening of Afro-Arab cooperation.

6. In the political realm, the OAU Declaration on the Political and Socio-economic Situation in Africa and the Fundamental Changes taking place in the World of 1900, underscored Africa's resolve to seize the initiative, to determine its destiny and to address the challenges to peace, democracy and security. The Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution that was established in 1993 was a practical expression of that determination to begin in earnest, the task of promoting peace and stability in Africa.

7. Through the Mechanism, the OAU has managed to address constructively many of the conflicts which have and continue to afflict our Continent. The Mechanism has made a fundamental difference, not only in its political significance of our determination to strive for peace, but more so in the practical framework it has provided for the continent to address conflicts and conflict situations.

8. The OAU has been on the vanguard in the promotion of the observance of human and people's rights. The OAU Charter on Human and People's Rights and the Grand Bay Declaration and Plan of Action on Human Rights are among the instruments adopted by the Organization to promote human rights. Underlying these instruments is a determination to ensure that Africa responds to the challenge of observing, promoting and protecting human rights and the rule of Law.

9. The OAU has also responded to the yearning of the African people for greater political freedoms inherent in democratic government. To this effect, it was at the forefront in galvanizing governments around a new determination to progressively place the people at the centre of decision making. The Charter on Popular Participation adopted in 1990 was a testimony to this new determination.

10. Today, Africa is firmly on the road to democratisation. In our Algiers decision on unconstitutional changes of Government and our Lome Declaration on the Framework for an OAU Response to Unconstitutional Changes adopted in 1999 and 2000 respectively, we reiterated our determination to see Africa governed on the basis of democracy and by governments emanating from the will of the people expressed through transparent, free and fair elections.

11. Similarly, in our 2000 Solemn Declaration on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation, we agreed on fundamental principles to govern our cooperation in security, and development and in the promotion of Democracy and Good Governance in the Continent.

12. Through the OAU, Africa has been able to respond to the many other challenges it faces. Whether in the protection of the environment, in fighting international terrorism, in combating the scourge of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, malaria and tuberculosis or dealing with humanitarian issues such as refugees and displaced persons, landmines, small and light weapons among others, Africa has found collective action through the OAU.

13. We, the Heads of State and Government, meeting in the inaugural session of the Assembly of our African Union, honour the founding leaders of the OAU and pay tribute to their tenacity, resilience and commitment to African Unity. They stood firm in the face of the divisive manipulations of the detractors of Africa and fought for the integrity of Africa and the human dignity of all the peoples of the continent. In the same vein, we pay tribute to all the Secretaries General and all the men and women who served the OAU with dedication and commitment.

14. As we hail the achievements of the OAU, we rededicate ourselves more resolutely to its principles and objectives and to the ideals of freedom, unity and development which the founding leaders sought to achieve in establishing the Organization thirty-nine years ago. As we bid farewell to the OAU, we rededicate ourselves to its memory as a pioneer, a liberator, a unifier, an organizer, and the soul of our continent. We pledge to strive more resolutely in pursuing the ultimate goals of the OAU and in furthering the cause of Africa and its people under the African Union.

15. We reiterate our continuing commitment to the objectives of the African Union which was initiated at the fourth extraordinary session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government in the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and as embodied in our 9.9.99 Sirte Declaration. We further rededicate ourselves to the objectives on the New Partnership of Africa's Development (NEPAD), as a programme of the African Union for strengthening inter-African cooperation and integration in a globalising world and to overcome the prevalence of poverty and strive for a better quality of life for all the peoples of Africa.

16. We commit ourselves to urgently establish all institutional structures to advance the agenda of the African Union and call on all Member States to honour their political and financial commitments and to take all the necessary actions to give unwavering support to all the Union's initiatives aimed at promoting peace, security, stability, sustainable development, democracy and human rights in our continent.

17. In order to ensure the involvement of our peoples and their civil society organisations in the activities of the Union, we recommit ourselves to the early establishment of the Pan African Parliament and the Economic, Social and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC) as envisaged in the Constitutive Act of our Union.

18. We welcome and recognise the important contribution of the youth, women, business community, parliamentary representatives and civil society and call upon these stakeholders to continue participating fully as partners in the regeneration of the African Continent through the programmes of the African Union. We reaffirm, in particular, the pivotal role of women in all levels of society and recognise that the objectives of the African Union cannot be achieved without the full involvement and participation of women at all levels and structures of the Union.

19. We note the importance of continuing to cooperate with Africa's partners as well as regional and continental organisations in the furtherance of the objectives of the African Union.

20. As we enter a new era in the history of our continent, we commit ourselves to the principles and objectives that we set out in the Constitutive Act of our Union in order to ensure that our peoples live in peace and prosperity. We also rededicate ourselves to implementing all programmes, policies and decisions of the African Union.

Durban, South Africa, 10 July 2002

DECLARATION ON THE PROCLAMATION BY THE AFRICAN UNION OF A CAPACITY BUILDING DECADE IN AFRICA
- Doc. Ass/AU/3 (I) Add.1

We, Heads of State and Government of Member States of the African Union meeting in Durban, South Africa, from 9 to 10 July 2002.

RECOGNIZING the vital importance of Capacity Building for our countries and having taken and continuing to take measures to make Capacity Building a clear and intersectoral priority of our development policies, strategies and programmes,

CONSCIOUS of the efforts deployed by the international community to promote the strengthening and/or consolidation of the capacities of various sectors in Africa,

BEARING IN MIND the objectives and principles enshrined in the Charter of the Organization of African Unity of 25 May 1963, particularly its Articles I, II and III,

CONSIDERING the 3 June 1991 Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, and the various other decisions, declarations, resolutions and joint declarations aimed at promoting the economic, social and cultural integration of our continent,

RECALLING the Sirte Declaration of 9.9.99 adopted by the Fourth Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government,

RECALLING ALSO the adoption of the Constitutive Act of the African Union by the Thirty-sixth Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Lome, Togo, from 10 to 12 July 2001, as subsequently ratified by two thirds of Member States,

ALSO BEARING IN MIND the New African Initiative (now renamed NEPAD) adopted in July 2001 and **MINDFUL** of the determination of Africans to eradicate poverty and to commit their countries, individually and collectively, to sustainable growth and development, while taking an active part in the world economy and in decision-making fora,

COGNIZANT of the enormous capacity needs in the public and private sectors, as well as in the civil society of our respective countries, which constitute a major impediment to participatory development,

TAKING NOTE of the emergence of new actors on the political, social and economic scene of our respective countries, whose participation would be crucial in the reduction of poverty, promotion of sustainable development and strengthening of good governance,

MINDFUL of the fact that Capacity Building constitutes a vital link that is missing in the implementation of effective development strategies in Africa,

CONVINCED that capacity building in our respective countries and within the Regional Organizations will guarantee peace and security, and make it possible to attain high growth rates,

ANXIOUS to preserve our attachment to the development and utilization of the continent's human resources for the general well-being of our peoples in all areas of human endeavour,

ALSO COGNIZANT of the need for all African States and International Organizations operating in Africa to strengthen coordination and harmonization of their activities and enhance development for the benefit of our Member States,

NOTING that efforts so far made in the area of Subregional and Regional cooperation have produced encouraging results as far as the continent's socio-economic development is concerned,

CONSIDERING the tremendous results already achieved by multilateral institutions, particularly African-based institutions, notably the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in the area of socio-economic policy analysis development and development management on the Continent,

DESIROUS to pursue such efforts, as evidenced by the establishment of the African Development Forum which brings together all the stakeholders with a view to reaching a consensus on Africa's development policies and priorities; the creation of the Joint African Institute whose role is to train officials from Member States in financial and economic matters, as well as in other development matters; and the implementation of the Capacity Building partnership in Africa (PACT) which offers a new framework for the provision by the international community for additional resources for Capacity Building on the continent,

ALSO CONSIDERING that these efforts will be critical in the promotion of tripartite dialogue and national coordination between the public and private sectors, and the civil society; will help strengthen capacities for regional cooperation and integration; and facilitate integration of African countries in the world economy,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the need for African countries to take ownership of their development policies, strategies and programmes, and to pursue an effective partnership between Africa and the international community,

HEREBY:

DECIDE to proclaim 2002-2011 the "**DECADE FOR CAPACITY BUILDING IN AFRICA**" and solemnly:

AFFIRM our determination to ensure that local Capacity Building features prominently in the development policies of our respective countries;

AGREE to demonstrate greater commitment to Capacity Building on the continent by pooling our resources and capacities, and allowing our people to take ownership of their development process;

FURTHER AGREE to promote the multilateral organisations, particularly those based in Africa, namely the African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) whose task is to strengthen and develop capacities on the Continent;

CALL ON the international community to respond positively to this Resolution by supporting financially and otherwise our Capacity Building efforts; and

MANDATE the Council of Ministers to review, each year, the progress made in the implementation of this Resolution with a view to ensuring the success of the **DECADE FOR CAPACITY BUILDING IN AFRICA.**

Annex IV

Decision adopted by the Executive Council of the African Union at its first ordinary session

(Durban, South Africa, 10 July 2002)

DECISION ON THE DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE

The Executive Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Report of the Special Session of the Council of Ministers on the African Union;

2. **DECIDES** to adopt its own Rules of Procedure and those of the Permanent Representatives' Committee.